

Nyerere makes Cairo stopover

CAIRO (R) — President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania stopped over in Cairo Wednesday for airport talks with Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak, who is said to be keen on clinching an arms deal with the African state. The Tanzanian defence minister, Brigadier Muhiddin Kimario, came to Cairo last November and Egyptian officials said possible Tanzanian requirements for Egyptian-made weapons were being studied. The Egyptian arms industry turns out small arms, armoured vehicles and artillery at competitive prices. Mr. Nyerere flew from Kuwait on his way home from a visit to India. In Kuwait, he and the emir of the Gulf state, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, called for an end to the Iran-Iraq war and total Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab lands, according to an official statement.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تيمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية والراي

Kirkpatrick quits as U.N. envoy

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Jeane Kirkpatrick Wednesday resigned her post and said she would return to private life. Ms. Kirkpatrick, after meeting President Reagan at the White House, denied she was disappointed that she would not fill a senior foreign policy position in his second administration and refused to discuss whether such a job was offered. "I now feel that I can best serve the president and our shared objectives for the United States and the world by returning to teaching and writing," she said. Ms. Kirkpatrick, a fiery and outspoken conservative Democrat, said she assured Mr. Reagan of her continuing confidence in his leadership and "his vision for America." She refused to discuss her meeting with Mr. Reagan, which had been scheduled for some months, saying that during her four years at the United Nations she had not commented on private conversations and that she "did not propose to break that habit now."

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Jordan-PLO talks significant — Italy

STRASBOURG (Petra) — Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti has described the ongoing political dialogue between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as a development of great significance. He said this dialogue should lead to a joint Jordanian-Palestinian strategy for peace efforts in the Middle East. Mr. Andreotti, speaking at a meeting of the 31 country European Foreign Ministers Council convened in response to an invitation from West German Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher, the present chairman of the council, said that a joint Jordan-PLO move should be encouraged. Mr. Andreotti called on Europe not to adopt negative or passive stand towards the issue and should move towards the establishment of peace in the area.

U.S. Senate confirms Baker as treasury chief

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Senate Tuesday unanimously approved the nomination of James Baker as secretary of the treasury. Mr. Baker, who served in the powerful position of White House chief of staff in the first four years of the Reagan presidency, was nominated to the treasury in an unusual job switch with the man who held the post, Donald Regan. A Texas attorney, Baker was endorsed by President Reagan's Republican Party and almost all Democrats, with the exception of William Proxmire, a Wisconsin Democrat.

Fahd visit to U.S. not cancelled

WASHINGTON (USIA) — A planned visit by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia to the U.S. in February has not been cancelled, a White House spokesman said Tuesday. Asked if King Fahd had cancelled his Feb. 11 visit to Washington, Deputy Press Secretary Larry Speakes replied, "No. Asked about a Kuwaiti news report saying the king had done so out of displeasure at administration policy on arms sales to Arab nations, he said, 'We know of no plan to cancel the visit.'"

Israeli Jews come from 130 countries

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jewish population of Israel belongs to 130 countries, according to statistical information published Tuesday in Israel. The annual report, published by the Israeli central bureau of statistics, said that a total of 1,748,000 Jews have been brought into occupied Palestine from all over the world between 1948 and 1983.

Berne refuses to extradite Lebanese

BERNE (R) — Switzerland has rejected a request by Italy for the extradition of a Lebanese arrested at a Swiss airport last November for carrying explosives, a Justice Ministry spokesman said Wednesday. Hussein Athar, 21, had been linked with the abduction of a Swiss diplomat, Erich Wehli, in Beirut earlier this month. The abductors were later identified by members of the Shiite Muslim, Amal movement as relatives of Mr. Athar.

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King, Iraqi president hold talks in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein held talks Wednesday on the current situation in the Middle East, the latest developments in the region and Jordanian-Iraqi relations.

King Hussein, accompanied by Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid, arrived early Wednesday on a previously announced visit and was accorded a state welcome by President Hussein and senior Iraqi leaders.

He was seen off from Amman by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who was sworn in as Regent before the King's departure. Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, Lower House Speaker Akel Al Fayed, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Jassam, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Cabinet members Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Taleb and senior civil and military officials.

Those who received the King upon arrival in Baghdad included Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council Vice-President Issat Ibrahim and Taha Moheiddin, First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan, Second Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, National Assembly Speaker Sa'adon Hammadi and high-ranking officials.

'Iranians repulsed'

The King's visit to Baghdad

Talks in Damascus produced important accords — Karami

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Lebanese cabinet members Wednesday ended talks with Syrian leaders aimed at salvaging Lebanon's "national unity" government, but it remained unclear whether socialist leader Walid Junblatt would resume his cabinet duties.

Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam presided over a four-hour meeting with the ministers and later said Israel's plan to pull out from South Lebanon was "a big, positive step because the Israeli withdrawal will push forward (Lebanese) national reconciliation."

Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami and three cabinet colleagues — Mr. Junblatt, Education Minister Selim Hoss and Justice Minister Nabih Berri — took part in the meeting also attended by Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara'a.

He said Lebanon's economic crisis, security problems in west Beirut, and preparations for

U.N. troops should protect Lebanon, Soviet envoy says

BEIRUT (R) — Soviet Ambassador Alexander Soldatov said Wednesday the role of U.N. peacekeeping troops in South Lebanon was to ensure that Israeli forces withdrew unconditionally and launched no more operations against Lebanon.

Mr. Soldatov told reporters after talks with President Amin Gemayel this was the task the Security Council gave the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) when it set up the force in 1978 after an earlier Israeli invasion of South Lebanon.

His statement indicated that Moscow backs Lebanon's rejection of Israel's demand for the 5,200-man UNIFIL to police the south for the Israelis after its troops withdraw.

The ambassador made no comment on the possibility that Lebanon might request an enlargement of UNIFIL's mandate.

comes amid renewed action on the ground in the 52-month-old Iran-Iraq war, and a senior Iraqi military commander said Wednesday Iraqi forces have foiled five Iranian attempts to retake positions overrun by Iraqi forces in a "lightning" offensive on Monday.

The commander of the Al Hussein Forces said intensive battles raged for over seven hours following the Iranian attempts and that the Iranians suffered heavily.

He said the Iraqi forces suffered only seven injured, and reiterated the Iraqi forces' "readiness to crush any Iranian attempt."

Referring to the Iraqi offensive on Monday, the commander said the Iraqi forces had the element of surprise against the Iranian forces on the southern war front and managed to occupy planned areas as well as penetrate 200 metres deep into Iranian territory.

Iraq announced Tuesday it would release all prisoners it captured during the Monday offensive against Iranian positions east of the southern port of Basra.

'Naval target' hit

Meanwhile, an Iraqi spokesman said Iraqi warplanes hit a "very large naval target" in the Gulf Wednesday. The spokesman said

the target was hit at 2.45 p.m. (1145 GMT).

Iraq has in the past used the term "very large naval target" to refer to oil tankers or other large merchant ships.

The spokesman, reading a communique on Baghdad Radio, said the raid was part of the Iraqi blockade aimed at "forcing the ruling gang in Iran to listen to the voice of reason and logic," meaning until Tehran accepted a negotiated end to the Gulf war.

"The Iraqi air force will continue to hunt any naval target that tries to infiltrate across the war operations zone" around the Iranian oil export terminal of Kharg Island and the Iranian ports in the northeastern sector of the Gulf, threatened the spokesman.

The announced raid was the 26th the Iraqis have said they carried out against ships plying Iranian ports since the start of this year, but only six vessels have so far been independently confirmed as damaged in those attacks. These included three freighters, two vessels of which one was a salvage tugboat and the other an oilfield supply boat, and a tanker that was hit in ballast last Sunday.

More than 50 ships, including a number of fully-laden very large oil tankers, were hit in the waterway last year, most of them by Iraqi planes. The Iraqis are trying to prevent foreign ships from lifting Iranian oil.

But Iraq has "realised" by attacking ships using ports on the Arabian side of the waterway because the Gulf Arab states support Iraq in the war.



His Majesty King Hussein, who left for Iraq on a brief visit Wednesday accompanied by Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat (second from left), Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh (left) and Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, is seen off by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan (Petra photo)

Difference surface in Fateh on 'new suggestions' by Jordan

PLO ready to accept 'land for peace' principle but not on basis of Security Council Resolution 242

From Lamis K. Andoni

In Tunis The Central Committee of Fateh, the mainstream Palestinian command group within the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), held an important meeting Wednesday night to discuss differences between the PLO and Jordan over a basis for future political moves to solve the Palestinian question, a senior PLO official here said.

The official, who asked not to be named, told the Jordan Times that the Central Committee was going to discuss new suggestions by Jordan on a common platform for future joint political action.

The new suggestions, which are in effect an elaboration of proposals made by His Majesty King Hussein during the inaugural session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman, were formulated by a committee headed by Fateh Central Committee member Khaled Al Hassan who has just returned here from Amman after a few days' visit.

Mr. Hassan, a prominent troubleshooter for PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, made his visit to Amman this week and conveyed to the Jordanian government the Palestinian "perception", a sort of reply, to the King's proposals.

The Palestinian "perception", as conveyed by Mr. Hassan, reiterated rejection of U.N. Resolution 242, but expressed the PLO's readiness to accept the principle of exchanging land for peace provided it is modified to include "exchanging the Palestinian land for peace" and the right for Palestinian self-determination and to establish a Palestinian state. The Jordanian government, in its turn, and together with Mr. Hassan, formulated a new modified formula to be discussed by the Palestinian leadership, according to the senior Fateh official.

There was no immediate explanation here to the contradiction between the fact that Mr. Hassan participated in formulating the new formula and the negative reactions by several Central Committee members here to some points of this formula.

According to the official, the new Jordanian formula still endorses U.N. Resolution 242, calls for the formation for a joint Palestinian-Jordanian negotiating team and leaves the door open for all Middle East peace initiatives including U.S. President Ronald Reagan's Sept. 1982 proposals. The official noted that these are three basic points which the Central Committee still opposes and which constitute points of difference with the Jordanian approach. Although the Central Committee has not yet taken a final stand on the issue, the senior official told the Jordan Times that Fateh is not ready to accept.

First, Resolution 242, since it refers to the Palestinians as refugees and not as a people.

Second, a joint Palestinian-Jordanian negotiating team. "We are ready to accept to be part of a united Arab team which includes Jordan, the PLO, Syria and Egypt

within the framework of an international conference, but not a two-party team," the official said. "It is either a unified Arab team or a separate PLO delegation," he said.

Third, Fateh will not accept any initiative that does not include an article that recognises the Palestinian right to self-determination and the right of the PLO to be the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Fourth, Fateh refuses any step or article that might lead to the exclusion of the Soviet Union from any peace negotiation.

Political observers here noted that the political atmosphere here is in many aspects similar to the situation that prevailed back in April 1983 when the Central Committee of Fateh turned down a joint formula signed by King Hussein and Mr. Arafat.

The difference, however, as the senior PLO official explained, is that Fateh is determined not to go back to square one with Jordan and will not allow its relation and coordination with Jordan to reach a deadlock.

"The Fateh Central Committee is determined to reach, together with Jordan, a formula that guarantees the continuation of the inevitable coordination between Jordan and PLO to liberate the Israeli-occupied territories and to restore the legitimate rights of the Palestinians," the official said, an hour before holding another important meeting of the Central Committee Wednesday night.

Reagan reassures Rabin of \$1.8b aid

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan assured Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin Wednesday he would request about \$1.8 billion in military aid to the hard-pressed country for next year.

"It will be not exactly what we wanted, but around \$1.8 billion," Mr. Rabin told reporters after the meeting. The figure represents a compromise between the \$1.4 billion Israel is receiving this year and the \$2.2 billion it sought for 1986.

At the same time, Mr. Rabin said the administration apparently would take no decision on economic aid. Israel asked for \$800 million as an emergency ap-

ropriation this year as well as \$1.9 billion for next year.

"I believe that at present there is no decision about the size of economic aid to Israel," Mr. Rabin said. But he said he was optimistic about what the U.S. government would do to support Israeli efforts to turn its economy around.

The former prime minister and military chief of staff said the measures, to his "great sorrow," include cuts in defence spending. "Israel is going to take security risks and real ones," he said.

On the diplomatic front, Mr. Rabin said he had registered Israel's objections to any attempt to give the Soviet Union a prominent

role in efforts to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Mr. Rabin said he and Mr. Reagan discussed the Lebanon situation and Israel's intention to carry out the first phase of its three-stage troop withdrawal by Feb. 18.

He also reaffirmed Israel's opposition to any international conference on bringing peace to the Middle East under United Nations auspices.

Mr. Rabin told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Tuesday that Israel was strongly against Washington's proposed sale of 40 F-15 fighters and other sophisticated weapons to Saudi Arabia.

NATO details data exchange proposal

STOCKHOLM (R) — The 35-nation European disarmament conference began hearing details Wednesday of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) proposals for exchanges of military information aimed at reducing the risk of war in Europe.

Iceland tabled the first of six papers on behalf of the 16-member Western alliance elaborating on technical-military measures proposed immediately after the conference opened last January.

The Soviet Union Tuesday submitted a draft treaty on the non-use of force, one of its key

proposals, focusing attention on Moscow's broad political approach to the conference, which began a new round Wednesday.

The NATO paper proposed that participating states should annually exchange information on their military command organisations, including the location of their headquarters and the composition of ground formations and land-based air forces.

The Warsaw Pact has in the past accused NATO of seeking to gain a licence for espionage through its information proposals.

But NATO delegates said they were pleased with what they called

the moderate tone of Wednesday's initial response from the Soviet delegation, which said it would study the paper with interest.

"The East has seen more dangerous curiosity in this measure than it contains," West German Ambassador Klaus Citron told reporters.

He said the exchange of information was not aimed at enabling better selection of targets for attack in the event of war, as suggested by some Warsaw Pact delegates. The measure would not cover missile sites, ammunition depots or number of troops.

Hamzah oil well brought under control

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Hamzah Three well, Jordan's latest discovery of oil which was reported last week, has been brought under control by a national team working on the site near Azraq, a Ministry of Energy and Mineral resources said Tuesday.

The spokesman, quoted by the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said that the well had a very high oil pressure, beyond the capacity of the equipment that were available to the national team. The oil outburst had posed a grave danger, the spokesman added.

The spokesman also described as "inaccurate" press reports that said civil defence teams were battling at the site of the Hamzah Three well to control the oil flow.

The national team, with the help of two experts from the Iraqi National Oil Company, brought the well under control, he said.

He said more equipments of higher controlling ability are being brought from Iraq to be installed at the well. The well's capability will be evaluated in February, he said.

He said that oil from the Hamzah One and Two wells is being pumped into the Jordan Refinery Company tanks installed at the site.

Ten more wells will be drilled in the field during this year, including the Hamzah Four and Five wells which will be completed before June, the spokesman said.

He expected that part of Jordan's need of oil will be met by 1986.

Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat announced in parliament last week that the Hamzah Three well could produce five times the oil quantities flowing from the first two proven wells — Hamzah One and Two.

Mr. Obaidat told the Upper House of Parliament (Senate) that the Hamzah Three well produced "encouraging quantities" and he was optimistic of the results.

The Hamzah One and Two wells, in the Azraq region, some 100 kilometres east of Amman, were proven to produce 2000 barrels of oil per day.

Top French official attacks Star Wars

PARIS (R) — France, the world's third-ranking nuclear power, firmly opposes space-based missile defence systems and any inclusion of its own nuclear strike force in superpower arms talks, a senior presidential adviser said Wednesday.

In a rare radio interview, Hubert Vedrine, President Francois Mitterrand's diplomatic counsellor, also expressed concern about anti-satellite weapons but tacitly approved the deployment of United States nuclear missiles in Europe.

He explained at length the reasoning behind an assertion by Mr. Mitterrand last month that U.S. proposals for a "Star Wars" defence system amounted to over-ambition.

The essence of Mr. Vedrine's arguments against space-based missiles, due for discussion at the resumed U.S.-Soviet arms control talks in Geneva in March, was that they could upset the balance of power and thereby accelerate the arms race.

Mr. Vedrine attributed the maintenance of peace since World War II to the balance of nuclear power, saying: "It is a paradoxical situation in which the greater the risk of reprisal, the more peace is assured. That is the reality today."

"But if you develop weapons which could render this capacity to strike back ineffective or extremely uncertain, paradoxically you are not moving towards peace but rather towards a situation of uncertainty in which risks are increased," he added on Radio France Internationale (RFI).

Israeli troops reportedly ahead of pullout schedule

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers are about 10 days ahead of schedule in dismantling their positions for the first stage of the pullback in South Lebanon, the daily Davar newspaper said Wednesday.

The first stage is to be completed by Feb. 18, until it is over, the Israeli army will continue to patrol the area, according to Davar, which is affiliated with Prime Minister Shimon Peres' Labour Party.

Near the front line along the Awali River all that's left to do is blow up tunnels and other installations that were once used by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as weapons depots, the newspaper reported.

On Tuesday, an Israeli major in charge of the evacuation in the area of Sidon, 5 kilometres south of the Awali, said all army equipment had been moved out of the port city. The major, who spoke on Israeli Radio but was not identified, said some Israeli installations would be blown up so they could not be used after the pullout by militias hostile to Israel.

Most of the soldiers in the first-stage withdrawal area are now camping out because their bases have been dismantled. The daily Maariv newspaper said many of the troops have no showers or heating facilities and are eating "battle rations" — prepackaged cold meals.

Dismantling is also going on further south of Sidon. Maariv said that one of the biggest Israeli bases in South Lebanon near the Zahran River, 12 kilometres to the south of the Awali river front line, had also been taken apart. It said only tents and armoured vehicles were left there.

In the first phase of the pullout Israeli troops will give up about 500 square kilometres but will continue to occupy nearly 2,300 square kilometres of South Lebanon.

The head of the army's headquarters office, Maj.-Gen. Chaim Erez, said Wednesday the army was not investing money in the new front line north of the Litani River, Israel Radio said. It also quoted him as saying that the entire, three-stage pullout will cost Israel about \$60 million.

No target dates have been announced for the second and third stages, but Mr. Peres has said he expected the withdrawal to be completed this summer.

Gen. Erez told military correspondents that when the entire withdrawal is over, Israel will have dismantled 65 bases, 50 positions and 700 buildings it had set up in Lebanon since the 1982 invasion, the radio said.

Militias ready for battle

Meanwhile in Zaruriye, when Abu Zafer said the war would be over quickly, his group of Sunni Muslim militiamen in the hills above the South Lebanese city of Sidon burst into raucous laughter. The militiamen of the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) are ready to fight their way into the port city when Israeli troops pull out from the area by Feb. 18 in the first stage of a three-phase withdrawal from South Lebanon.

"We'll push the Lebanese Forces back to the new Israeli lines," Abu Zafer said Tuesday. "But only if the security plan fails."

The Lebanese Forces are the militia of the Lebanese Front Coalition, and most of its men belong to the Falangist Party.

Under a government security plan, a symbolic force of army troops has deployed in the Iqlim Al Kharrub region north of Sidon to prevent sectarian fighting. The number of frontline militiamen has decreased on both sides, but neither is far from its arsenal.

"It is our job to open the road to Sidon. The Kharrub must be linked to Sidon," Abu Zafer told Reuters.

The PSP, led by Druze leader Walid Junblatt, regards the Kharrub's Sunni majority as its natural ally and a link to the largely Sunni town of Sidon with a population of 100,000. "Sidon is very important to the party," said Aladdin Terrou, the PSP military chief in the region.

The PSP has said it is preparing for the Israeli pullback from the city after a 32-month occupation

by holding meetings with leftist Sunni forces and the Shiite Muslim Amal Movement there.

Men of the Lebanese Forces militia have concentrated in Christian villages along Israel's present Awali River valley frontline between Sidon and the PSP forces in the Kharrub. They could call on reserves from Falangist areas behind the new Israeli front in the event of fighting.

Asked about a possible PSP move on Sidon, an Israeli military source said: "We don't care who takes over Sidon."

Abu Zafer said the PSP was better disciplined than in September 1983, when both Druze and Falangist forces committed massacres in the Shout Mountains after the Israelis pulled back from the Beirut area.

"There is a different psychological atmosphere in the Kharrub. We now have military police in the PSP," Abu Zafer said. "But it is suicide for the Lebanese Forces to stay."

Muslim leaders say the Lebanese Forces have ignored an agreement under the government security plan to pull out fighters not native to the Kharrub and still have 1,400 men there. Falangist militia leaders deny the charge.

Eyewitnesses said there had been a recent exodus of the few civilians left in the Kharrub after nearly a year of battles between the PSP and the Lebanese Forces. The government security plan has brought quiet to the front lines.

At the same time, the magazine said, the United States was considering supplying Saudi Arabia with 40 F-15 fighter planes, 3,000 Sidewinder missiles, 1,000 Stinger missiles and 400 Maverick missiles.

Jane's, usually regarded as authoritative on military matters, said the package would probably be offered during a visit to Washington by Saudi Arabia's King Fahd on Feb. 11.

The same package was originally sought by Saudi Arabia two years ago but was fiercely opposed by Jewish groups, who feared it might endanger Israel, Jane's added.

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EMPTY GRANARIES: Empty granary pots stand in the deserted village of Guindikayin, south of Abeche, Chad recently. With their sorghum crop ruined by drought the villagers of Guindikayin have now moved to a food production project in Bitcha wadi a few kilometres away (AP wirephoto)

Jane's: U.S. considering arms sales to Israel, Saudi Arabia

LONDON (R) — The U.S. government is considering major arms sales simultaneously to Israel and Saudi Arabia, the British military journal Jane's Defence Weekly has said. It said Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin had been to Washington to discuss provision of more than \$12 billion of military and economic aid over the next three years.

At the same time, the magazine said, the United States was considering supplying Saudi Arabia with 40 F-15 fighter planes, 3,000 Sidewinder missiles, 1,000 Stinger missiles and 400 Maverick missiles.

Jane's, usually regarded as authoritative on military matters, said the package would probably be offered during a visit to Washington by Saudi Arabia's King Fahd on Feb. 11.

The same package was originally sought by Saudi Arabia two years ago but was fiercely opposed by Jewish groups, who feared it might endanger Israel, Jane's added.

Libya to release four Britons, report says

LONDON (R) — Libya has decided to free four Britons held in the country since last May, the Foreign Office has said, quoting Italian officials in Tripoli.

A spokesman said the Foreign Office had received a message from Italy, which represents British interests in Libya, that the men would be released. He declined to elaborate until more details emerged.

According to a British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) report, the Italian ambassador in Tripoli had received notice that the Libyan People's Congress had approved their release. In line with Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi's recommendation.

The report from the BBC's correspondent in Tripoli said there was no mention of when the men might be freed.

The Britons were detained when relations between the two

countries broke down after a London policeman was killed in April last year by shots fired from the Libyan embassy in anti-Qaddafi protests.

A special envoy of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Terry Waite, visited Libya last month and appealed to Col. Qaddafi to free the men.

Col. Qaddafi said that while he was in favour of releasing them, only the People's Congresses could decide their fate.

The Libyan People's Congresses met to debate the issue nearly four weeks ago.

The higher General Congress is due to meet next month and could finalise the details of the Britons' release.

The four men are Alan Russell, a teacher, Malcolm Anderson, an oil technician, Robin Plummer, an engineer and Michael Berdimer, a university lecturer.

Somali leader arrives in UAE

ABU DHABI (R) — Somali First Vice-President Lt. Gen. Mohammed Ali Samatar arrived here Wednesday from Qatar on the second leg of a Gulf tour which will also take him to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

Gen. Samatar, who is also defence minister, told reporters he was carrying a message from Somali President Major-General Mohammed Siad Barre to United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zaid bin Sultan Al Nahayan. He gave no details.

Jewish settlers try to settle in Hebron

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — About 20 Jewish settlers tried to move into a small plot of land inside the Israeli-occupied Palestinian West Bank town of Hebron Wednesday but the army sealed off the area and dispersed them, an army spokesman said.

An Arab family is living on the plot which is less than two acres. The settlers staged a brief protest and were joined by right-wing members of parliament Geula Cohen and Rabbi Eliezer Waldman.

Several dozen Jewish families have settled in parts of Hebron in recent years, creating tension with the Arab population. Such settlements have the support of the right-wing Likud Bloc but are opposed by the Labour Party.

Meanwhile an Israeli settler was injured near the city of Nablus in the West Bank when the vehicle he was travelling in was stoned Tuesday night.

In another similar incident a van was also stoned, but, according to Radio Israel the van was damaged but no injuries occurred.

Greek airspace protests rejected by Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Turkey Wednesday rejected protests by Greece that its warplanes repeatedly violated Greek airspace in the Aegean during military manoeuvres last week.

A Foreign Ministry statement said allegations that Turkish planes came within six miles of Greek territory were unfounded.

Others relating to the filing of flight plans and to breaches of flight outside six miles were not deemed worth investigating, the statement said.

Greece says its airspace extends 10 miles from its shores but

Turkey recognises only a six-mile limit.

Turkey also contends that Greek supervision of international airspace over the Aegean under the 1948 Chicago Convention is limited to civilian planes and that military aircraft are not allowed to file flight plans.

The statement also accused Greece of rejecting an offer from the International Civil Aviation Organisation to solve the row between the two countries.

Greece maintains it has a right to extend from six to 12 miles territorial waters in the Aegean.

Ethiopia accuses five Arab states, PLO of backing rebels

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Ethiopia has accused five Arab states and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) of plotting against it by backing rebels in the north of the country.

A Foreign Ministry statement named the five as Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria and Morocco.

It said the Sudanese government recently hosted a meeting in Khartoum of "certain terrorist bandits in the pay of the forces of reaction and expansion in the area of the Red Sea."

The five states and the PLO took part in the meeting, the statement said.

It added: "If their hostile and conspiratorial activities are not stopped by a speedy end to the Ethiopian people's struggle, the Ethiopian people will be forced to take appropriate measures to defend its security and territorial integrity."

It accused Sudan and Saudi Arabia of master-minding and financing rebel offensives in Ethiopia's northern region of Eritrea, where guerrillas have been fighting against the Addis Ababa government for the past two decades.

"Syria, Iraq and Morocco have also in the past lent unlimited assistance to the terrorist bandits in gross violation of all accepted principles of inter-state relations and in pursuit of a grandiose design of expansionism at the expense of Ethiopian unity," the statement said.

It repeated Addis Ababa's charges that Sudan, with the collaboration of Israel, "abducted" Ethiopian citizens — a reference to the evacuation of Ethiopian Jews to Israel.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL
17:00... Koran
17:15... Cartoons
17:30... Children Programmes
18:00... Walt Disney
19:30... Local Programme on Agriculture
19:40... Programme Review
19:45... Week's Event
20:00... News in Arabic
20:40... Arabic Series
21:00... Tomorrow's Programme
21:50... Pop Session
22:00... News in Arabic
22:10... Play Continued

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00... Les immémoriaux
19:00... News in French
19:15... Theatre de Boulevard
19:30... News in Hebrew
19:45... Drawing Workshop
20:30... Three's Company
21:10... Travelling Man
22:00... News in English
22:15... Sergeant York

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 95.60 KHz. SW

07:00... Light Music
07:30... Newsday
08:00... Morning Show
08:30... News Summary
09:00... Morning Show
10:00... News Summary
10:30... Pop Session
11:00... News Summary
11:30... Pop Session
12:00... News Summary
12:30... News Summary
13:00... News Summary
13:30... News Bulletin
14:00... Instrumentals
14:30... Just A Minute
15:00... Concert Hour
16:00... News Summary
16:30... Instrumentals
17:00... Old Favorites
17:30... Special Feature
18:00... News Summary
18:30... Good Old Days
19:00... Newsday
19:30... Date with a Star
20:00... Evening Show
21:00... News Summary
21:30... Evening Show
22:00... News Summary
22:30... Evening Show
23:00... News Summary
24:00... Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz.

06:00 Newsday 06:30 Classical Record Review 06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:05 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30 Peabody Choice 07:45 The World 08:00 Newsday 08:30 Nature Notebook 08:40 The Farming World 09:00 World News 09:05 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30 Short Takes 09:45 Network UK 10:00 World News 10:05 Reflections 10:15 Country Music Spotlight 10:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:05 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Monitor 12:00 News Summary: From The Promenade Concerts 12:30 Two Cheers For January 12:45 World News 12:50 News about Britain 13:15 New Ideas 13:25 The Week in Wales 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsworld 14:15 Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 World News Summary 15:30 Network UK 15:45 Sackrison and Sinofelinas 16:00 News Summary: Outlook 16:45 Out On The Floor 17:00 18:00 Newsday 17:15 The Pleasure of Your 18:00 Reflections 06:45 Commentary 18:15 Assignment 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:05 Meridian 19:40 The Week in Wales 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsday 20:30 Discovery 21:00 News Summary: Outlook 21:45 Stock Market Report 21:55 Report on Religion 22:00 World News 22:30 Business Matters 23:00 News Summary 23:05 In the Meantime 23:15 A Jolly Good Show 24:00 World News 06:25 The Week in Wales 06:30 Financial News 06:40 Reflections 06:45 Sports Round-up 07:00 World News: Commentary 07:15 Merchant Navy Programme 07:30 Omnibus

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260, SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 & 15210 KHz.

06:00 VOA Morning: News, Informal Presentation of Popular Music with Feature Reports, Interviews, Answers to Listeners' Questions, Science Digest, Sports News in 30 minute post the hour. 17:00 News 17:30 Music USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Special English News and Features 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English News and Features 21:00 Newsline America 21:30 Music USA 22:00 News and Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 VOA World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

EXHIBITIONS

* An exhibition of the new German films daily at the Goethe Institute except Friday, Sunday and Thursday afternoon and will run until Feb. 7.

* An exhibition of books and publications on the teaching of English, organised by the British Council, at the University of Jordan Language Centre.

* An Italian art exhibition of oriental paintings at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Feb. 7).

FILM

"Whose Life is it Anyway?" at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 4371
American Centre Library 41520
British Council 36147
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 42403
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Hays Arts Centre 667185
Jordan Youth City 667181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.C.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Cliffed Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists, a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal Loubeidh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m.

PRAYER TIMES

06:07 Fajr
06:30 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
11:49 Dhuhr
14:46 'Asr
17:06 'Asr
18:32 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information desk at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. 53250, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

09:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:15 Bucharest (RO)
09:45 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
09:45 Jeddah (RJ)
09:45 Cairo (RJ)
10:00 Dhahran (RJ)
10:00 Beirut (RJ)
10:00 Doha, Riyadh (SV)
11:30 Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
12:05 Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)

DEPARTURES

06:45 Cairo (RJ)
06:50 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
07:00 Damascus, Paris (GF)
08:05 Beirut (MEA)
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:05 Athens (RJ)
11:10 Agaba, Cairo (RJ)
12:00 Paris, London (RJ)
12:15 Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
12:20 Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
12:30 Ankara, Istanbul (TK)
13:00 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)
15:30 Larnaca, Tripoli (LN)
15:30 Larnaca (CY)
16:40 Kuwait (KU)
17:15 Baghdad (RJ)
19:30 Kuwait (RJ)
19:40 Doha, Muscat (RJ)
20:15 Jeddah (RJ)
20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

— Radisson
— Al Khansa
— Golden Arabia
— Golden Audland
— Al Bahar Al Arabi
— Baghdad
— Sunderland Venture
— Farah One
— Amex
— Zammis Michalos

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy to cloudy, with scattered showers and southerly to moderate to fresh winds. A drop in temperature is expected. In Aqaba, it will be hazy, with southerly fresh winds and calm seas.

Low/high temperature in deg.C.

Amman 10/23
Aqaba 10/23
Deserts 4/14
Jordan Valley 11/20

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jds

Belgian franc 64.21 / 64.6
Dutch guilder 113.6 / 114.3
Egyptian pound 302.8 / 305.3
French franc 42 / 42.3
Iraqi dinar 333.6 / 339.3
Israeli sheqel (for 100) 160.2 / 161.2
Japanese yen 133.1 / 133.8
Lebanese dollar 37.6 / 38.6
Omani rial 117.0 / 117.6
Qatari riyal 111.6 / 112.5
Saudi riyal 114 / 114.5
Swedish crown 45 / 45.3
Swiss franc 152.7 / 153.6
Syrian lira 34.4 / 35.5
UAE dirham 111 / 111.8
U.K. sterling pound 455.6 / 458.3
U.S. dollar 407.5 / 409.5
W. German mark 128.5 / 129.3

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 775111
Fire, fire, police 775111
Blood bank 661111
Civil Defence rescue 22090-3
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56390-1
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water service 771125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333

TAXIS

Khayyam taxi 41541
Basma taxi 811857
Siyaha taxi 43265
Hussein taxi 21776
Khaldoun taxi 664888
Abi taxi 21127
Al Koor taxi 779274

IRIB

Dr. Sitan Qasrawi (—)
Jerusalem pharmacy 3443

ZARQA:

Dr. Khalid Abu Hussein 985001
Ra'ad pharmacy (—)

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Ministry of Tourism 42311
Hotel complaints 666412
Price complaints 661176
Telephone: Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Cable or telegram 11
Repair service 11

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Abdul Hadi Tayyem 20115

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per kg.

Apple (double) 180 / 220
Apple (golden) 280 / 220
Apple (stark) 280 / 220
Banana 280 / 240
Banana (Mukhammar) 240 / 210
Beans 160 / 160
Broad beans 360 / 300
Cabbage 60 / 40
Cheenut 640 / 570
Carrot (black) 120 / 90
Carrot (yellow) 140 / 120
Cauliflower 60 / 40
Cucumber (large) 200 / 170
Cucumber (small) 320 / 260
Eggplant (large) 120 / 120
Eggplant (small) 150 / 130
Garlic 150 / 120
Grapefruit 140 / 100

EMERGENCIES

Dr. Abdul Rahman Ajaj (—)
Minid pharmacy 770910
Grand Arabian pharmacy 24051

TAXIS

Khayyam taxi 41541
Basma taxi 811857
Siyaha taxi 43265
Hussein taxi 21776
Khaldoun taxi 664888
Abi taxi 21127
Al Koor taxi 779274

IRIB

Dr. Sitan Qasrawi (—)
Jerusalem pharmacy 3443

ZARQA:

Dr. Khalid Abu Hussein 985001
Ra'ad pharmacy (—)</

Home news

Irbid camp renamed after Azmi Al Mufti

IRBID (Petra) — Irbid Wednesday renamed Al Hoson Refugee Camp after Mr. Azmi Al Mufti.

The ceremony was attended by Irbid Governor Mohammad Ali Amin, the Mayor of Irbid, Dr. Abdul Razzak Tubeishat, government officials and camp residents.

In his speech on the occasion Mr. Amin praised the martyr Azmi Al Mufti and called for solidarity in the face of challenges. He also promised to improve services in the camp.

In another ceremony at the comprehensive high school for girls in Irbid the main hall of the school was named after the late Fahd Al Qawasmeh.

The renaming of both places was suggested by Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat and endorsed in the cabinet meeting held in Irbid on Jan. 17.

Both Mr. Al Mufti and Mr. Qawasmeh were victims of two separate incidents of assassination in Bucharest and Amman respectively.

9 projects implemented by Queen Alia fund

AMMAN (Petra) — Dr. Zaki Al Ayyoubi, a member of the board of trustees for Queen Alia Jordan Welfare Fund (QAJWF), said that during a six-year period, from 1978 to 1984, the fund implemented nine projects to serve the handicapped children and social development centres at the cost of JD 1,700,000.

In his lecture Tuesday at the invitation of the Rotary Club in Amman, Dr. Ayyoubi said that the fund provided technical and financial aid to charitable societies throughout the country amounting to JD 330,000 and conducted a number of studies on the handling of social problems.

The fund also held 18 training courses and symposiums with a total cost of JD 52,000 which were attended by 365 members and leaders of charitable societies all over the country, Dr. Ayyoubi said.

He stressed the fund's need for moral and material support from Jordanians and institutions to enable it to perform its pioneering role in serving voluntary work.

Jordan, Egypt to exchange experiences

CAIRO (Petra) — Jordan and Egypt will exchange experience in labour and social fields while Egypt will train Jordanians on social security regulation, according to an agreement reached by the visiting Minister of Labour and Social Development Tayseer Abdul Jabbar and his Egyptian counterpart Amal Othman.

Panel discusses voluntary work in Jordan

By Rana Sabbagh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The issue of voluntary work in Jordan, was the subject of a heated panel discussion Thursday organised by the Lydda Charitable Society Thursday.

Attending the panel were a number of Jordanian voluntary work pioneers who participated in the panel. They were Mr. Daifallah Hmoud, former governor of Amman, Mr. Ahmad Ghneim, ex-president of the General Union of Voluntary Societies, Mr. Mohammad Huneidi, former undersecretary of the Ministry of Social Development and Dr. Nureh Tannous, from the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs.

Mr. Hmoud described the meaning of social voluntary work saying: "Social voluntary work could be a test at both the harsh and easy situation. He added that voluntary work started first in Palestine due to the effect of the cruel foreign colonisation and the aftermath of Israel's occupation of Palestine. However he said, social voluntary movement is a democratic movement, and is a measure of individual loyalty and sense of belonging to any society."

He said that the development plans to be set should engulf the east and west bank of Jordan, "as both banks are in fact one land and the peoples of both belong to the same culture and heritage."

Mr. Ghneim defined the process of social voluntary work as, "a process that offers to needy people both moral and physical support which gradually enables these needy people in preserving their dignity."

"All one needs to consider in such a good action is the preparation of agreeable conditions of life that could satisfy any needy citizen, because we all have the right to live and to lead a proper and decent life."

He added that the Jordanian national lottery, sponsored by the General Union of Voluntary Societies, constitutes one of the major financial resources to the voluntary societies and amounts up to JD 1,000,000 yearly.

Mr. Huneidi contributed to the definition of social voluntary work saying that it is an organised work plan like all other organised works, and involves "development plans, personnel, execution of such plans and set goals as well as the evaluation process during and after the implementation of such plans."

Dr. Tannous added to the concept of voluntary work saying that it is a movement that aims to benefit needy people during crisis as well as offering development plans that aim at manpower development.

She added that she thinks it is high time the Ministry of Education adopts an academic course on social voluntary work to be implemented in the academic courses.

She said that the movement of social voluntary work is currently experiencing a setback in the number of social volunteers that could be due to inadequate rearing of children to accept social this movement and work in this field.

Attending the panel discussion was the under-secretary for social development at the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, Muhammad Ali Wardam, who was deputising for the minister, Dr. Tayseer Abdul Jabbar, who is currently in an official visit to Egypt.

Municipality to reorganise Amman's northern parts

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Amman Municipality will shortly embark on a project for reorganising the northern parts of the capital, Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh announced recently.

He said in an interview published by the local press that the municipality has plans for dividing land and reasserting ownership under the supervision of a joint committee grouping the municipality and the land owners, to be chaired by a judge from the Ministry of Justice.

The plan entails dividing the lands into 12 or 15 separate units which are inhabited by 200,000 people with the purpose of providing each with utilities and services such as shopping and health centres, a post office, police station, public offices, mosques, civil defence, transport and communications facilities, Mr. Rawabdeh said.

Gateway

The municipality, he said, plans to announce a tender for architects to design a gateway to Amman which will be a significant monument in the city, projecting its past, present and future. Tentatively, we have selected a spot between the Fifth and Sixth Circles to serve as a site for this gate, the mayor revealed.

Referring to the work going on at Abdali for building a transport complex, the mayor said that the old complex has been removed because it lacked conveniences for travellers and did not provide proper facilities for incoming and outgoing vehicles. The new plan entails building an integrated complex that can accommodate more vehicles, he added.

The municipality will be implementing the first phase of the



TAKING OATH: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday swears in as Regent before His Majesty King Hussein leaves for Iraq on a brief visit (Petra photo)

EC envoys visit University of Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali Wednesday received the ambassadors of the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Belgium, Greece and European Community (EC) representative in Amman Romano Lantini.

Dr. Majali briefed the delegation on the university's history and development, its ambitions and plans and its interaction with the local and Arab society.

He praised the EC countries for their contributions to the university and especially to the Faculty of Engineering and Technology.

Dr. Majali presented the ambassadors with university medals and commemorative gifts.

The delegation visited the Faculty of Engineering and Technology and were briefed by its dean, Dr. Bassam Abu Ghazaleh, on the development of the faculty and the aid contributed by EC member states.

They toured the faculty and inspected its modern laboratories recently received from EC.

They also visited the university library and were briefed by the dean of scientific research, Dr. Anan Bakheit, on the library, its documentation and manuscript section which include some very rare manuscripts.

The EC delegation watched a documentary film on the establishment of the university, its development and its future plans.

IAEA team due on Feb. 8

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation of experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is due here on Feb. 8 for a week-long visit.

The delegation is expected to hold working talks with Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) team to discuss energy and electricity forcast.

Both the IAEA experts and the JEA team will submit the study and its results to the concerned government officials for approval in preparation for the final report.

JEA started the study in 1983 in cooperation with the Vienna-based IAEA.

Engineers Association to hold second symposium in July

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Engineers Association (JEA), will hold in July its second symposium on industrial safety under the theme "Occupational Injuries And Diseases."

The two-day long symposium will discuss a number of subjects and studies related to occupational injuries, preventive measures, the importance of training and guidance in preventing injuries, the role of all involved in the field of industry in combating occupational hazards and the role of information media in industrial safety promotion.

An exhibition will be held during the symposium including equipment and tools used for industrial safety.

Films and slides will focus on causes of industrial and occupational injuries and their effect on production.

Mu'ta to establish Faculty of Medicine

AMMAN (Petra) — Mu'ta University decided to establish a Faculty of Medicine according to university sources.

The sources added that studies are currently underway for the planning and equipping of the faculty.

Delegation to attend Arab satellite launch on Feb. 8

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Jordan is expected to send an official delegation to Kourou, French Guyana early next month to attend the official launching of the Ariane rocket which will carry an Arab satellite into space.

The delegation which will be led by Communications Minister Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben will be going in response to an invitation by the Arab Satellite Communications Organisation "Arabsat" which is launching the satellite on Feb. 8.

The satellite will be used to offer television, telephone and telex channels to the Arab World in a bid to facilitate communications between them.

The satellite has a tracking station built in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia and there is a smaller station in Tunis for the same purpose.

Arabsat which has a capital of \$200 million for its operations, plans to launch another satellite in May 1985.

Arabsat was developed for the Arab Satellite Communications Organisation by the French company Aerospatiale.

Later this year, two flight models in orbit will provide a regular telecommunications and community television service to the 22 Arab League countries.

Among many other countries who are planning to acquire national or regional satellite systems, the Arab states have an ever-increasing need in communications which is a reflection of their expanding economies.

These needs became evident as early as the 1970s, and they inspired the creation in 1976 of Arabsat which is an organisation of the League of Arab states whose

role is to acquire the necessary satellites, launch vehicles and control facilities and to operate the satellite system.

In cooperation with the French embassy in Amman, the Ministry of Telecommunications has organised an exhibition at the French Cultural Centre from Feb. 2 until Feb. 9 which will display photographs and illustrations of the Arabsat development process.

There will also be a series of lectures conducted by Mr. Lebeque, an engineer at Aerospatiale who is also the chief of the construction of the Arabsat satellite.

The Arabsat spacecraft is a medium size, multi-mission satellite — the first of a new generation of telecommunications satellites developed for regional and domestic systems.

It is designed to be launched by any of today's economical launchers and is considered an advanced technology spacecraft utilising the most up to date techniques.

ECWA-sponsored Amman development project to receive final approval

By Lima Nabil
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Contacts are currently underway between the Ministries of Planning and Municipalities, the Municipality of Amman and the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) to get a final approval on the draft project "Environmental Development of Urban Communities in Western Asian Countries" to be executed in Amman.

The project will be executed in cooperation with ECWA, the French Ministry of Environment and a French city, to be chosen later, and which has construction and development problems similar to those of Amman.

The head of the settlement division at ECWA, Marwan Muhsin, currently on a visit to Jordan, said that a team of experts from the ECWA and the French Ministry of Environment will visit Amman and conduct studies from various sectors to study environment problems facing the city and suggest solutions.

A United Nations committee will be called upon to help put those suggestions into effect.

He added that the team will also study existing environment protection legislations, problems affecting drinking water, wastewater treatment, pollution in water resources and pipes and problems relating to industrial pollution.

He said the project includes the study of methods of solid waste collection and storage, and sources and effects of air pollution on public and environmental health, studies related to the city's expansion, housing programmes as well as legislations for the uses of lands.

Also to be studied will be housing projects and their effects on the city's development, efficiency of transportation, traffic problems and pollution resulting from it, in addition to a number of subjects related to environmental management.

Mr. Muhsin added that a team from the Municipality of Amman will visit the twin city in France, to familiarise themselves with methods used in handling problems which are similar to those facing Amman.

The ECWA has chosen Amman and Alexandria in Egypt for sponsoring this project.

for review and discussion before preparing its final formula.

The United Nations specialised organisations will be invited to the said meeting to discuss the report and to adopt the recommendations.

Old explosive kills 2

AMMAN (J.T.) — Two youths died south of Amman Tuesday when an old explosive charge went off as they tried to tamper with it.

A report in the local press said the explosion occurred at Thahira where the two youths had been looking after their sheep, grazing in the area.

Their names were given as Falah Sharay's and his brother Sami Sharay's, aged 13 and 14 respectively.

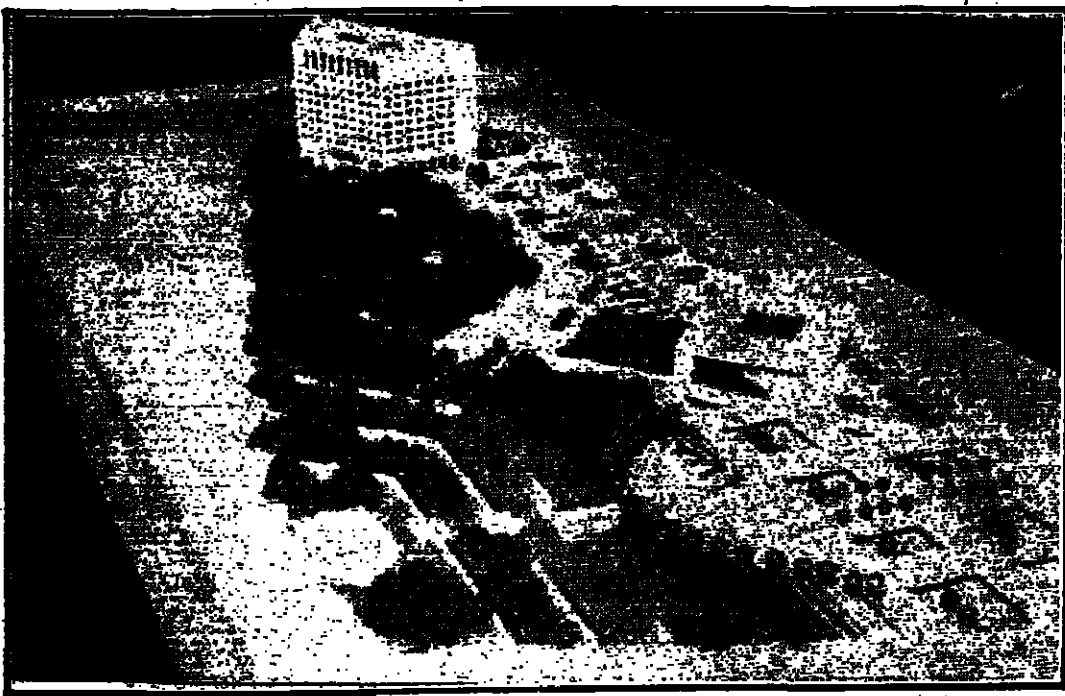
Another two persons were killed in a road accident near Mudawara, Tuesday.

They were in a car that overturned apparently due to excessive speeding.

LIVE-IN MAID WANTED

Preferably with experience in looking after children. Good terms offered. Contact immediately.

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A model of the projected King Abdullah Gardens which is undertaken by the Municipality of Amman



Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh

Some of these lands are owned by the municipality and other by individuals who use them for different purposes and therefore, he said, the land ought to be organised and used in a proper manner. At present, garages, warehouses, workshops and auto spare-part stores line the Mahatta street, he said.

Also, the municipality will build a complex to serve as a bazaar centre in the Mahatta region and this will be built in the style of the shopping centres of the capital, but will provide areas for local handicrafts and others selling cloth and traditional industries, Mr. Rawabdeh added.

Trees, gardens

"Recently we signed an agreement for reorganising Greater Amman and this means providing more comprehensive services like electricity and water to Amman and the outlying suburbs" Mr. Rawabdeh pointed out. As for the greening of Amman, Mr. Rawabdeh said that the municipality planted 100,000 tree saplings in 1983 and 1984 and added that "we hope to see a green Amman within five years." This year, he said, the municipality also plans to establish gardens in east and west Amman, at Marka near the old airport and near the Amra Hotel.

TODAY... TODAY...

OPERA CINEMA
Abdali Tel: 675573

Proudly presents

SAVAGE ISLAND

The biggest adventure in history to begin in Savage Island.

A place worth visiting

He's a scoundrel... a lower of danger and the last of the adventures. This is the story of Bully Hayes

SAVAGE ISLAND

Starring: Tommy Lee Jones, Michael O'Keefe, Jenny Seagrove.

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

TODAY...

CONCORD CINEMA
Shmeisani tel: 677420

Proudly presents

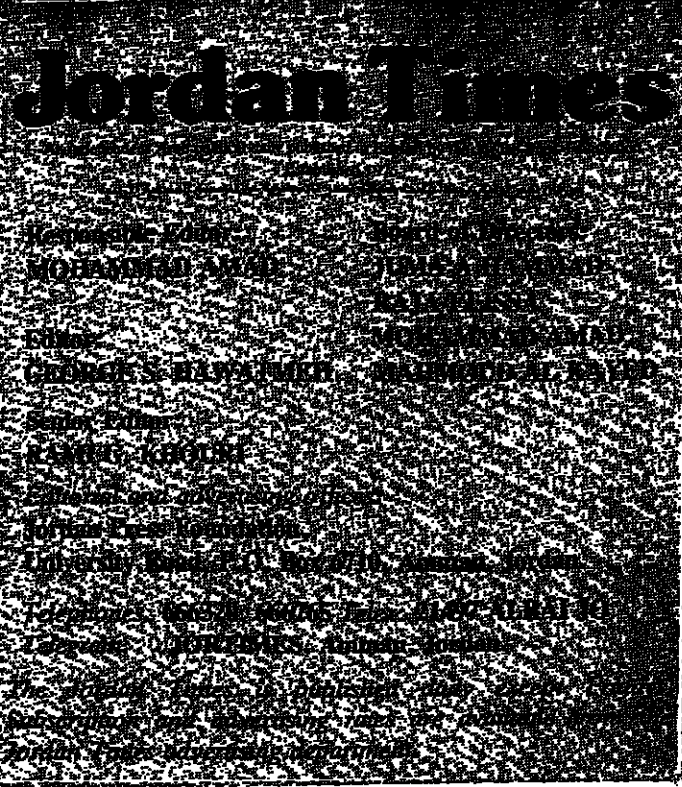
CONAN

In times where only the strong and ruthless could survive;

THE MOST POWERFUL LEGEND OF ALL IS BACK IN A NEW ADVENTURE

Starring: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Grace Jones, Wilt Chamberlain

Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.



A debate in progress

WHEN Mrs. Laila Sharaf was appointed Minister of Information in January last year, she gathered journalists to explain her policies. "With policies like these," she told a group of them at the end of a lively discussion, "I doubt I'll last a year in the cabinet."

And she was right of course. Mrs. Sharaf must have known all along that change could not come easy — especially the kind of change she sought for the work of the media in the country. This is life in politics — always difficult and never void of challenges. But, we do hope and at the same time feel confident that the minister's resignation is not the end of her service to the country — King, people and government.

Why Mrs. Sharaf had to leave has been a subject of intense debate and discussion in Jordan over the past few days. Many people have become aware of the difficulties she faced in carrying out her duties, but only a handful of us have actually heard from the government its side of the story. Probably we need an open discussion on the subject. The prime minister might want to say something about it; and parliament will no doubt raise the issue, possibly in today's planned session.

Jordan may well be an infant democracy, but the Kingdom is by no means a small fiefdom. His Majesty the King is one of the wisest men on earth today, and the whole world attests to the quality of his leadership. Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat's government is not infallible; only God is; but it is a good government, honest and sincere. Our people may not be the most civilised and advanced in the world; but we have, throughout the years, proved our mantle and surmounted most obstacles. Our love for this country and its leader is unquestionable; our sincerity for a better future and a better society cannot be doubted.

We can all conduct a positive debate and reach responsible conclusions. Mrs. Sharaf's resignation is an issue that concerns us deeply and directly. It must not go unnoticed nor should it be put on the back burner. It is being discussed by almost everybody in town, at our homes and in our offices. Why don't we admit its significance and discuss it publicly?

Forward-looking people face their problems head-on, and a progressive society like ours cannot afford to shy away from difficulties and snags surrounding it. Why not share the heavy burden that each and every one of us has to carry? Things around us will not improve unless and until we all have understood the need to work together and collectively. Problems will not disappear because we just like them to go away. The effort of everybody is needed to build the Kingdom into the strong and prosperous country that we all want it to be.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: U.S. insults Arabs

THE ARAB countries must take heed of the words of William J. Jant, an American expert on Middle East issues, who said that the U.S. administration does not intend to offer a new initiative to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict. His statement at a press gathering in Amman Tuesday should serve as a reminder to Arab governments about the intentions of Washington at this particular stage.

The Arab governments should realise that not only does the U.S. ignore their Middle East problem, but also it continues to pursue a hostile policy towards the Arab Nation by supplying Israel with all sorts of weapons and unlimited financial aid, enabling it to perpetuate its occupation of Palestine and build more settlements on land from which Arab inhabitants have been evicted.

Another thing on the mind of the U.S. administration at present is solving its issues with the Soviet Union. This is being done at a time when other nations too are neglecting the Middle East problem and when the Arabs are continuing their internal disputes and haggling about their little problems, as Israel continues a drive to evict more Arab people from Palestine and to build more settlements on their lands.

To add to all this, the region continues to witness attempts by some Arab countries to impose hegemony on the Palestinian leadership and so weaken the PLO and drive more despair into the hearts of the Arab people of Palestine. The Arabs should wake up and make a close study of the situation, and should heed Mr. Jant's words. They must work out their own plans and carry out their own joint action.

Al Dustour: Manipulating Arab decline

ISRAEL HAS lately been escalating its arbitrary measures against the Arab inhabitants of Palestine especially in the Hebron area and the refugee camps on the occupied West Bank. The new wave of repression and intimidation no doubt characterises the nature of the Zionist enemy and emphasises its aggressiveness against out kinsmen and clearly displays Israel's objectives in expansion.

These daily practices against our kinsmen in the occupied territories have been backed by a new wave of Zionist fanaticism, extremism and acts of discrimination which began to surface in the past few years. Our kinsmen under Israeli rule are now facing officially-backed Zionist terrorism and well-organised campaigns aimed at uprooting them from their lands and homes with the help of Zionist settlers who have built their settlements in the midst of the local Arab inhabitants.

Against all this we continue to witness a deteriorating Arab situation and a weak Arab stand. In the face of Israel's aggression and threats to our existence and our future, Arab governments continue to devote their attention to further divisions and further disputes which can achieve nothing. The Arab countries should take a lesson from the people in the occupied Arab lands on steadfastness and resoluteness to resist the enemy's plans and to thwart all conspiracies.

Sawt Al Shaab: Petting the Israeli steel cat

INITIAL RESULTS of Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin's visit to Washington indicate that the United States has responded immediately to Israel's military requests which are expected to reach \$1.8 billion in the coming year. This is of course in addition to grants, financial assistance and economic help Israel continues to receive from the U.S. government and Zionist organisations in America.

This huge aid is looked on in Washington as a price to be paid for protecting America's interests in the Middle East, according to U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, who said that the only means of protecting these interests is to pump more aid into Israel. But this also means that the United States is taking active participation in Israel's wars of expansion and in aggression against the Arab countries in general and the Palestinians in particular.

VIEW FROM AMERICA

Islam promotes a high sense of togetherness

By Franz Schurmann

SAN FRANCISCO — Our family had a visitor not so long ago. It was an old friend of my wife whom she had not seen in twenty years. She had married an Afghan, gone back to live there, and then left when the situation became too tense. A short time ago her mother arrived in the U.S. from Kabul via New Delhi. On arriving she was asked to fill out forms in which she was asked, among other things, to state the names and ages of all her children. She was in her late sixties and listed a five year old child among her children. The U.S. customs official immediately suspected some foul play, as if she were trying to legitimise some relative's child for later entry into the U.S. Our friend tried to explain to the U.S. customs that in the Muslim family all the children even of different

mothers are considered part of the same family. In her family back in Afghanistan, she noted, there were forty members.

Few Americans know how close and tight Muslim families are. Most only know about the several wives a Muslim may take. In earlier days westerners laughed or sneered at these practices. Now given the rampant "sexual revolution" in the west, most no longer care. Some may even be envious as psychologists increasingly identify loneliness as one of the main sources of depression in contemporary western society. I remember seeing a picture of some "punks," who have become the most conspicuous youth rebels of the west in the 1980's living in a barren room of some empty building with a single inscription on the walls:

lonely.

Americans also used to laugh at the heavenly promises made in the Koran. It seemed that warriors going into battle to die were being promised some Garden of Eden of sensual delights. But my own reading of Sura 2, paragraph 24 suggests simply that those who are righteous in life will be provided forever more without want from gardens which will produce endlessly because they too will never want for water. And — which seems to me to mean that they shall have mates as pure as those who were taken into paradise. In short, even in paradise a kind of family will continue on. I imagine.

We in the west have developed a powerful individualism. This individualism

has strengths which the East must recognise. At the same time it has grave weaknesses. The East has had a long tradition of a social fabric — families, tribes, nations, whole civilisations — which have been bound together through networks of people. Sometimes this social strength has led to an inability to manifest individual creativity.

Because of the power of Western culture, individualism is spreading throughout the world. Some of it is destructive. Some of it is creative. There is therefore a lot of the West in the East. But there is very little of the East in the West. Family has broken down in the West. The birth rate is rapidly falling. There is much more mental illness than there should be, given the affluence. And there

is a pervasive sense that life has lost meaning. That accounts for the remarkable revival of religious sentiment during the last few years.

Among America's blacks the spread of Islam has been partly due to the tremendous social strength which the Muslim faith confers. The American black family had disintegrated almost to the point of non-existence. Yet among black Muslims one sees the same strong Muslim family as anywhere else in the world. Our friend whose family members are practising Muslims (though she holds to her Christian faith) often goes to the mosque in Philadelphia built by American blacks but where Muslims of all nations go to worship.

Curiously, many of the once strident women's liberationists

have now "rediscovered the family". It is becoming fashionable for many professional women to have one child somewhere well into her thirties and even early forties. "Single-parent households," by necessity or by choice are becoming more common. But many of these pseudo-families do not work well. Too much is missing.

The time will surely come when the West will finally understand that Islam has more to offer than shaheeds bombing their way into paradise. Maybe the sight of big families crowding around the mosques which are still few in number but growing will suggest to many Americans afflicted with loneliness and depression that there is a powerful faith which can re-link people.

Resumed talks force U.S. arms control activists to shift strategy

By Carol Giacomo

Reuter

WASHINGTON — The resumption of arms control talks between the United States and the Soviet Union has forced American anti-nuclear arms activists to rethink their strategy for pressing for an end to the arms race.

They are expected to focus less attention this year on advocating a mutual and verifiable freeze on nuclear weapons and to concentrate on scrapping the MX missile now being developed and on pushing for a comprehensive test ban on nuclear weapons.

In addition, arms control groups and their congressional allies say they have decided to work to limit funds for President Reagan's "Star Wars" space defence system and extend a temporary moratorium on anti-satellite weapons.

Senator Alan Cranston, a California Democrat, who used his 1984 presidential bid to campaign for a mutual and verifiable freeze on nuclear weapons, has announced he will not make the freeze a priority this year and said U.S. peace groups agree.

The National Nuclear Freeze Campaign, the most prominent group organised solely around the freeze issue, insists Sen. Cranston overstates the case.

It will continue to press for passage of a comprehensive freeze bill even though "we don't have high hopes for this year," spokeswoman Marguerite Beck-Reuter told Reuters.

Sen. Cranston said he still believes in the wisdom of a nuclear freeze, but he argued that he and others can be more effective this

year working for "attainable" goals, such as defeating MX and restricting the "Star Wars" research and development programme into a space-oriented ballistic missile defence system.

Mr. Reagan is expected to ask Congress for three to four billion dollars in "Star Wars" funding for 1985, compared to \$1.4 billion in 1984.

But arms control groups are expected to try to limit that budget to one to two billion dollars.

In a victory for arms control advocates, Congress last year deferred until March a vote on whether 1985 budget money can be used to build the controversial multiple-warhead MX missiles.

John Isaacs, spokesman for Council for a Livable World, said he thinks arms control advocates this year have a 50-50 chance of stopping the MX programme.

Opposition to MX grew last year when Mr. Reagan seemed to be resisting arms control talks. But with fresh negotiations now scheduled, some members of Congress have expressed increasing wariness about unilaterally scuttling MX as a bargaining tool.

In a statement, Sen. Cranston said: "The situation on arms control has changed because President Reagan's attitude towards arms control has changed — for the better."

He noted Mr. Reagan has finally made arms control his top priority, adding: "I believe he is entitled to a chance to give it his best shot."

Sen. Cranston said unlike himself, Mr. Reagan would never propose a freeze because he does not believe in it and he suggested



realism is what is now needed.

"This Congress cannot and will not force him to institute a freeze as part of his negotiating procedure," he said.

Sen. Cranston added: "The American people want him to suc-

ceed. I want him to succeed. The only way we can make progress in arms control in the next four years is for him to succeed and for the Senate to ratify any sound treaty he brings back from the negotiating table."

Gibraltarians fear deal with Spain

By Brian Mooney

Reuter

GIBRALTAR — When Spain lifts a 16-year siege on this British colony next month the people of Gibraltar are going to face the full impact of the late 20th century — and many would prefer to turn the other way.

The prospects of an open frontier and what this implies in political, economic and social terms are sending shock waves through the tightly-knit society of 25,000 Gibraltarians.

The changes at the frontier sealed off by Spain in 1969 have raised serious questions about the future of this rock fortress on Spain's southern tip which Britain has ruled in the face of Spanish objections since 1704.

The planned reopening of the border on Feb. 5 follows a deal in which Britain for the first time explicitly undertook to discuss its dispute with Spain over Gibraltar's sovereignty.

Assurances by Britain that there will be no transfer of sovereignty against the wishes of the inhabitants and claims by Gibraltar's chief minister, Sir Joshua Hassan, that the issue of sovereignty was written into the deal only as a face-saving formula for Spain have done little to assuage the fears.

There is also concern that the Anglo-Spanish deal could eventually backfire on both Spain and Britain.

Opponents believe the deal could lead to Spain rapidly regaining the territory. Others think it could trigger a wave of nationalism and result in some form of independence movement.

Although Gibraltarians maintain an outward British way of life — English bobbies (police) and beer-drinking in pubs — they have evolved into a society

quite distinct from Britain.

Very few are of British stock. They are a mixture of Maltese, Indians, Arabs, Spanish, Portuguese, Genoese and Jews who mostly converse in Llanito, a corrupted form of Spanish.

What holds them to Britain is their distrust of Spain.

That is why many were disturbed by the agreement reached between Britain and Spain in Brussels last November.

It promised an end to the last vestiges of a blockade imposed by the late dictator Francisco Franco and meant recognition by Spain that its policy of coercion had failed.

It was not the first Anglo-Spanish agreement on Gibraltar, but it did mark the first time in which Gibraltar had to make concessions as well. These were European Community rights for Spaniards — rights to work, reside and buy property — in advance of Spain's scheduled entry into the community in 1986.

The Gibraltar opposition, Socialist Labour Party saw this as the thin end of the wedge and its leader Jose Bossano has promised an unrelenting campaign to stop the deal.

He has stormed out of parliament and started collecting signatures for a petition against the deal, arguing that Gibraltar will be gobbled up economically by Spain.

"With a gross national product of 70 million sterling (\$78 million), we just cannot compete. The smallest company in Spain could take us over without blinking," he told Reuters.

He said he would press for revision of the treaty governing relations between Gibraltar and the community so that Spaniards would be prevented from gaining control of the economy.

Mr. Bossano mistrusts British intentions and says the way ahead for Gibraltar is decolonisation. He cites the Caribbean Island state of Grenada as a possible model for independence that would leave only a nominal allegiance to the British Crown.

"Bossano talks nonsense," Mr. Hassan told Reuters.

Mr. Hassan, 69, who has headed local government almost without a break since 1942, rules out suggestions that Spain is on the road to regaining sovereignty over Gibraltar. He discounts fears that Spain will buy Gibraltar and says the full frontier reopening will halt a one-way drain on reserves.

Gibraltarians have spent 16 million sterling (\$18 million) in the Spanish mainland since the Socialist government in Madrid opened the border to local pedestrian traffic in 1982.

Spaniards have not been able to shop in Gibraltar and millions of non-Spanish tourists have been barred from visiting.

Gibraltar is now poised for a massive boom of tourists who will be able to stay and buy. Official projections estimate the number of visitors could rise to three million annually by the end of the decade from around 150,000 a year now.

The influx will come at a time when the local economy is showing signs of strain. Government savings of some 12 million sterling (\$13.5 million) have fallen to 3.6 million (\$4 million) in two years and the budget is running at an annual four million sterling (\$4.5 million) deficit.

The only major growth sector in Gibraltar is offshore banking with deposits now totalling some 150 million sterling (\$165 million). Despite its promises of new ric-

hes, the expected tourist invasion is also creating unease because Gibraltar has been largely trapped in a time capsule for the last 16 years.

"This is an extremely conservative society. Ironically, we were a liberal outpost in the 1960s when Spain was still under the Franco regime," said local journalist Dominique Searle.

They are also worried that their 5.8-square-kilometre home will be overrun by traffic.

Fear and active dislike of Spain is also manifested by the several thousand Gibraltarians who have still not crossed the frontier since it was reopened for pedestrians two years ago.

There is, however, a sector in Gibraltar which believes that sooner or later the colony will have to revert to Spain.

Emmanuel Tria, a lawyer who stood for local parliament in two elections on an integration platform, says Gibraltarians are wasting a golden opportunity by not talking to Spain.

"The biggest thing we have to offer is our sovereignty and I am convinced we could use this to negotiate a deal which would give us the maximum autonomy," Mr. Tria told Reuters.

He said Spain could help smooth the path by turning its territory on the other side of the Isthmus into a free port to put living standards on par with Gibraltar.

Others believe there could eventually be a British-Spanish condominium, starting possibly with joint military cooperation.

The British army garrison of 800 men on Gibraltar, which is bristling with military installations such as a communications centre deep inside the rock, said it would have no objections to holding joint exercises with the Spanish army.

Fellow students shun extreme-right activist at N. London Polytechnic

By Richard Lander

Reuter

LONDON — In a shabby terrace house in a run-down London suburb, philosophy student Patrick Harrington attends lectures all on his own, shunned by fellow students who go to classes on a college campus nearby.

The bizarre arrangement has resulted in Mr. Ross is not swayed by arguments that Student Harrington, who lives in south-west London, should have the right to study freely no matter how distasteful others regard his views.

Mr. Ross is not swayed by arguments that Student Harrington, who lives in south-west London, should have the right to study freely no matter how distasteful others regard his views.

An avowedly racist group which says proudly that it stands for white supremacy, the NF is often blamed by civil rights groups for violent attacks on Britain's non-white minorities and for sparking disorder by staging marches through inner city areas.

Student Harrington has said on television that blacks are not proper citizens and therefore have no citizens' rights.

Since last May, many NLP students have tried to have Student Harrington expelled. They say he is there only to cause trouble and to provoke the high proportion of blacks, Asians and radicals among the 5,000 full-time college members.

Student Harrington has been adamant that he has as much right as any student to attend NLP, however, and for months he has fought a successful legal battle to back his claim.

After some 400 students barricaded the campus to prevent him attending lectures, he obtained a high court judgment in May ordering the arrest of anyone who barred his way.

"The situation is approaching anarchy," said Justice Mars-Jones, the judge. "It is outrageous that just because a bunch of students utter threats nothing should be done."

Judge Mars-Jones ordered that police and a court official known as the tipstaff should escort Student Harrington to ensure he could enter the college.

Accompanied by police in riot gear, Student Harrington and the tipstaff faced a hail of light bulbs and furniture hurled by students as they tried to gain access.

After clearing barricaded staircases and corridors, Student Harrington managed to study for 30 minutes in the library before leaving in a taxi chased by jeering students.

LETTERS

What have you done for Jordan?

To the Editor:

I love Jordan. But, does Jordan love me?

This is what one must ask oneself.

John F. Kennedy once said: "Don't ask what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country."

Jordan does not love selfish drivers who drive as if there are no other drivers or pedestrians in the streets, who steal other people's right of way and turn their vehicles to death machines more destructive than tanks in wars!

Jordan does not love those citizens who care only for themselves, who keep their homes clean by throwing their garbage at their neighbours, who destroy and sabotage what ever does not belong to themselves, who act on very selfish basis.

Jordan does not love picnickers who sit in the shade of green trees and carelessly then set them ablaze; those who eat the fruits and throw the peels in any place but the litter box.

Jordan does not love those who criticise everybody but themselves, who with long tongues to start rumours and give arms and legs to troubles; those who speak of something and do quite the opposite.

If you love me, my dear citizens, as much as I love you, don't proclaim your love for me by stickers on cars or prints on T-shirts. Instead stick the love for me in your hearts and let your good deeds tattoo it on me.

Faris Abu Dayyeh,
Amman.

Know your enemy, your allies—and know yourself

Reviewed By Stanley Karnow

The 25-year war: America's military role in Vietnam, by General Bruce Palmer Jr. The University Press of Kentucky, 236 pp. \$24.

VETERANS, journalists, scholars and former officials are currently flooding the market with books on the Vietnam experience. But apart from the self-serving memoir of General William Westmoreland, the U.S. commander during much of the war, very little has been written on the subject by senior officers. So this account by General Bruce Palmer, who participated in the conflict both in Vietnam and Washington, is a useful addition to the growing shelf. In many ways, however, I find its basic themes to be contradictory.

On the one hand, Gen. Palmer makes it plain that the United States should not have become engaged in Vietnam in the first place. At the same time, though, he contends that the war could have been won had a more effective strategy

been pursued. But the two arguments are antithetical. The very reasons for avoiding Vietnam are those that doomed America from the start.

The reasons were clear to Gen. Palmer as far back as 1951, when he was a student at the Army War College. The French were then bogged down in a struggle to reimpose their imperial rule over Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, the three states of Indochina, and Gen. Palmer's class overwhelmingly opposed any major U.S. involvement in the region.

Among other things, the class concluded, the area was only of "secondary" importance to the United States, whose defence line excluded most of mainland Southeast Asia. Vietnam was also deemed to be an "extremely difficult" battlefield for American forces, partly because of its mountains and dense jungles and partly because its land and coastal borders would be "almost impossible" to seal against infiltration or to defend against overt invasion. And there were political and psychological disadvantages,

since the United States "would inherit the taint of European colonialism."

Interestingly, most of the members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff reached roughly the same verdict in the spring of 1954, when the Eisenhower administration debated whether to help the beleaguered French garrison at Dien Bien Phu. Considering Vietnam to be "devoid of decisive military objectives," they judged that to intervene "would be a serious diversion of limited U.S. capabilities."

BOOK REVIEW

Looking back, Gen. Palmer essentially confirms the futility of the American commitment in Vietnam. He stresses, for example, that air power failed either to stop the North Vietnamese from moving south or to destroy the Vietcong units. He points out as well that by Americanising the war, the United States disconcerted and discouraged its South Vietnamese allies, who decided to let Uncle

Sam do the job and were therefore unprepared to fulfil their own responsibilities when President Nixon began the U.S. troop withdrawal. Above all, the United States seriously underestimated the readiness of the Communists to sacrifice themselves for their cause.

As far back as 1946, the Communist leader Ho Chi Minh warned the French on the eve of his war with them: "You can kill ten of my men for every one I kill of yours, but even at those odds, you will lose and I will win." The French disregarded that warning, and went down to defeat as a result. The United States should have learned a lesson from the French disaster. But America, propelled by a belief in its invincibility, went forward.

Gen. Westmoreland had conceived a strategy of attrition, under which so many enemy troops would be slaughtered that the Communist leadership in Hanoi would yield. In fact, the United States won every battle, killing hundreds of thousands of North Vietnamese and Vietcong soldiers

in the process. It made no difference. As Gen. Palmer put it, "Their will to resist was inexhaustible."

What the United States could not fathom was the tenacity and determination of the Communists, for whom there was no substitute for victory. So, instead of grinding down the enemy, America found itself engulfed in a seemingly endless war in which the gruesome "body counts" of Communist dead were no measure of progress. Ultimately, the U.S. public lost patience in a conflict that was going nowhere.

Like many other top soldiers, Gen. Palmer apparently feels compelled to submit that the war could have been won had it been prosecuted more vigorously. He borrows a suggestion put forth by Colonel Harry Summers of the Army War College, who contends that North Vietnamese infiltration could have been halted by deploying U.S. forces to block the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Laos. He also believes that the threat of an American invasion of North Vietnam would have deterred the

Communists.

I suppose that the "what might have been" of Vietnam will be discussed for decades to come. Plainly, though, it was the wrong war in the wrong place — and, I would emphasize, the decision to enter it was made by America's presidents and not its generals and admirals. As for its meaning for future U.S. policy, I would cite Gen. Maxwell Taylor, one of the architects of American involvement in Vietnam, who told me years after the conflict:

"First, we didn't know ourselves. We thought we were going into another Korean war, but this was a different country. Secondly, we didn't know our South Vietnamese allies. We never understood them, and that was another surprise. And we knew even less about North Vietnam. Who was Ho Chi Minh? Nobody really knew."

"So, until we know the enemy and know our allies and know ourselves, we'd better keep out of this kind of dirty business. It's very dangerous."

Randa Habibi's Corner

Imported art sells

JORDANIANS ARE interested in paintings, there is no doubt.

It is enough to visit their houses to see canvases displayed all over. Classical or modern, figurative or abstract, paintings have become rather a necessity in our houses. And who would complain? Painting is an honest and healthy art.

But what astonishes me is the cosmopolitan character of these paintings — coming from all over the world — from Spain (Marbella to be more accurate), France, China, Italy (mostly classical reproductions) but rarely Jordanian.

I believe that to collect authentic works from abroad is absolutely normal, for art masterpieces have no nationality; but when it comes to paintings of an ordinary artistic value, produced commercially, sold in hundreds of European galleries or even in streets like Via Veneto by unknown artists, the issue becomes difficult to understand.

Why not collect their paintings which are a record and a carrier of our own civilisation and at the same time encourage the artistic awakening of our country?

I noticed with bitterness that those who buy Jordanian paintings are mainly foreigners living in the country. And the most shocking thing is that most of the Spanish-Italian-Franco-Sino-American-English canvas displayed on the walls of our Jordanian houses have been chosen by decorators of those houses together with the furniture, the canapes, low tables, the curtains ... Paintings are chosen because their colours match the pink in the curtains and the blue of the sofa ... others are chosen to fit the bathroom porcelain in mass production without a single look of appreciation of fine arts.

When are we going to relinquish this "foreigners' complex"?

Suicide rate among young Americans worries experts

By Rodney Pinder

Reuter

WASHINGTON — A young American tries to commit suicide at least every two minutes of every day, and one succeeds every hour, and three-quarters.

Grim statistics like these, collected by worried U.S. experts, show that at least 5,000 Americans in their teens or early 20s are killing themselves each year. Between 50 and 100 try and fail for every one who succeeds, specialists say.

The rate has almost tripled since 1950, and those studying the phenomenon are unsure why so many young people born into the comfort of the richest nation on earth are so miserable.

Baffled public figures and suicide experts are campaigning for a national commission and research programme to isolate the reasons for what many say is an epidemic.

"Experts blame everything

from materialism to the fast-moving society, but nobody knows," New York Lieutenant-Governor Alfred DelBello, who has set up the private National Committee on Youth Suicide Prevention, told Reuters.

In 1982, the latest year for which figures are available, the suicide death for 15- to 24-year-olds was 12.1 per 100,000, compared with 4.5 in 1950. The rates for other age groups have stayed about the same or have fallen.

Up to 500,000 young Americans try to kill themselves each year, says the American Association of Suicidology.

World Health Organisation statistics show the U.S. rate for youths to be one of the worst in the world. Sweden, which has attracted some attention for its high general suicide rate — 19.4 per 100,000 in 1982 compared with 12.4 in America — recorded a 10.3 rate for 15- to 24-year-olds.

U.S. figures show that the most suicide-prone youth is a white American male in his late teens, part of a generation arguably enjoying more material benefits than any in history.

Alan Berman, president of the Suicidology Association, said there was no stereotype, but drew an outline of an American most at risk from himself.

"He is a 17-year-old male, at or near the end of a relationship with a girl, feeling marginal or expendable to his family, maybe showing signs of depression and exhibiting changes in behaviour at school or home, perhaps aggressive or withdrawn, complaining about vague physical problems."

"And maybe, he is showing curiosity about death."

"Put him in a room by himself with a gun available and you have a fairly lethal picture," Mr. Berman concluded.

Gun control advocates cite the availability of guns in the United

States as a major factor in the soaring suicide toll.

There are an estimated 45 million guns in U.S. homes, three times as many as in the early 1960s, and the bullet is the favourite instrument of death for young suicides.

"The rise in America's suicide rate has paralleled the increase in our country's handgun population," said a recent study by the National Coalition to Ban Handguns.

The coalition and independent experts say most young people who wish to die do so during brief fits of depression or hostility. A loaded gun offers a quick solution, they say.

"While pills, gas or razor blades allow time for a change of heart, there is no second chance with a bullet," said the study.

Statistics show there are four times as many suicide attempts among young women as among young men.

But the males, who favour shooting and hanging, succeed four times more often than the females, who favour pills.

Boston psychologist Pamela Cantor says "The prevalence and acceptance of violence" contributes to the U.S. phenomenon. "Violence is a way of life in and out of the home," she said. "It makes violence against self more acceptable."

Dr. Cantor cited as a possible contributory factor a weakening of family ties, with parents paying less attention to their offspring. She quoted one study saying American fathers spend an average of 37 seconds a day with their infants.

She also pointed to the rise of the "upwardly mobile" U.S. family, willing to move far and often in search of the good life, uprooting from relatives, friends and communities.

And, she said, American children today tend to grow up fast,

tasting the traditional fruits of adulthood — sex, drugs, money — while being underdeveloped psychologically.

Some experts believe this may be the first generation not to assume it will become more prosperous than its parents, and one that sees its elders struggling to cope with the pressures of an insecure and rapidly changing society.

Donna-Marie Buckley's 15-year-old son Jon hanged himself on May 11, 1984. "He had everything," she said.

"In a way it may be a problem of American success," she said. "I think our kids have so much, they are bored. They have nothing to look forward to. Life is so easy that if they hit a problem, they expect an easy way out."

Lieutenant-Governor DelBello said: "We study fish and we study frogs, we even study firebrakes. But we don't know anything about our kids."

Javanese: Migrants to colonise Borneo?

By Brian Johnson

Fire cleared forests over a vast area of the Indonesian region of East Kalimantan. Yet the government continues to cut down virgin forests in its resettlement scheme. Why are the money and trees being wasted?

SAMARINDA, East Kalimantan — In 1982-83, East Kalimantan, the Indonesian sector of the island of Borneo, suffered a vast forest fire due to drought, bad logging practices and fires lit by forest cultivators; an area larger than Belgium and Luxembourg together was largely destroyed.

East Kalimantan is one of the main target areas for the Indonesian government's "transmigration" programme, which has already moved half a million people from crowded Java to other islands of the Indonesian archipelago.

The fire offers opportunities as well as problems to the managers of the transmigration scheme. But international observers fear that these managers will ignore the opportunity to settle people on fire-cleared land, and will continue cutting and bulldozing fresh tracts of virgin forest to make room for the new communities.

So far, about 20,000 families — some 100,000 people — have been re-settled in East Kalimantan. The government plans to move another 500,000 people there over the period of the next five-year plan.

The settlement programme is

controversial, especially outside Indonesia. The government is not only destroying forest to put farmers on the often very unproductive soil where trees once stood, but is using mechanised clearing techniques, such as dragging huge anchor chains behind bulldozers. These methods compact the soil, making it impervious to rain, and also scrape away fertile humus, according to Dr. Michael Ross of Oxford University (U.K.).

Many of the proposed transmigration settlements happen to be in areas unscathed by the 1982-83 fire. Will plans be revised and new locations surveyed in burnt areas so as to prevent the further destruction of undamaged forest?

Response so far is not encouraging. There have been several official statements to the effect that, for the longer-term, settlement sites are being reconsidered. But where surveying for roads and water supplies has already been done, there is no thought of altering plans.

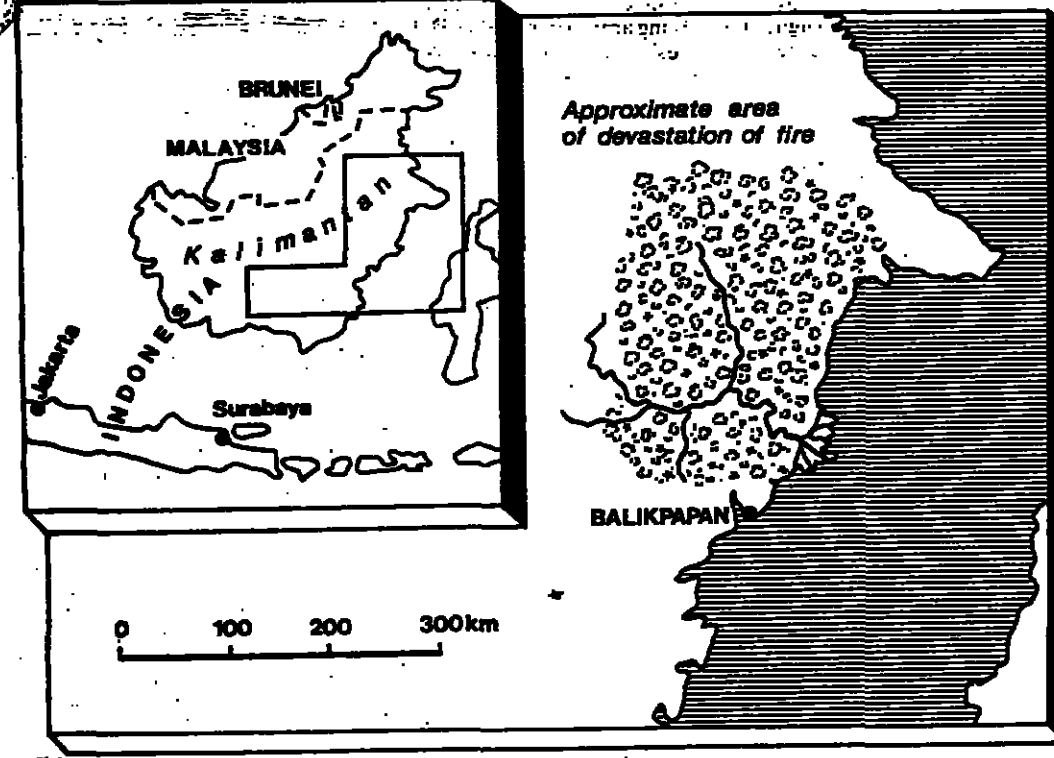
A principal reason for the apparent official inflexibility is the degree of political pressure which surrounds the whole transmigration programme.

In part the impetus comes from overcrowding on Java. But a brief survey of modern Indonesian history is enough to reveal that, in political terms, the Java-based government has a compelling need to bind together the far-flung and very disparate island territories which comprise this republic.

Government critics describe the transmigration programme as Javanese "colonisation" of Borneo. They see much potential friction between the independent-minded Kutai people of Borneo, especially the Dyaks of the interior, and the Javanese settlers. Their fears are not eased by the growing appreciation in Kalimantan of the area's great mineral wealth: gold, oil, gas, coal (in abundant quantities and of high quality) — on top of the timber riches.

A largely unspoken fear among both the government and its critics is that a Kutai leader could arise and loudly recall the region's glorious independent past, sparking off an independence struggle backed by the redoubtable forest-dwelling Dyaks — who performed remarkably well against the Japanese in World War II.

It is political calculations of this kind which encourage the government to spend the estimated \$12,000 per family moved and settled. The argument that such large sums could be better spent



on improving these smallholders' conditions at home in Java are beside the political point. So too is the ecological argument against transmigration — namely that many farmers will fail to make a living cropping the poor forest soil.

Expensive mechanised clearing makes little social or economic sense when abundant labour is available for hand-clearing, which can save soils and other forest resources and give the new settlements a far greater chance of survival. But mechanical clearing

is faster, as well as being highly profitable for the contractors employed.

Northern forestry experts are openly wondering whether the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and other sources of development finance should be giving financial support to a resettlement scheme which they see as environmentally unsound. The World Bank has loaned \$266 million for the scheme this far.

According to British soil mapping expert Dr. Richard Bower,

Japanese and other land-use consultants have often advised against the selection of particular forest areas for settlement, only to learn that their advice was overridden by the government and ignored by the banks.

The fire, which cleared land for free and left ashes to act as fertiliser, gives the government an opportunity to change its plans without appearing to give in to the advice of foreign experts. Will it use this opportunity? — EARTHSCAN feature.

Child tells of 'tickle' game in Los Angeles court drama

By Ronald Clarke

Reuter

LOS ANGELES — A seven-year-old boy in a blazing blue T-shirt giggles occasionally as he tells of playing "cowboys and Indians", "tickle" and the "naked movie star" game.

His testimony is part of one of the grimmest events in Los Angeles — a child molestation case in which seven teachers, including a 77-year-old woman in a wheelchair, face a 208-count criminal complaint involving 41 children.

Pre-trial hearings in the case have dragged on for six months. Lawyers say they could last a year. Child psychiatrists have expressed fears about the traumatic effects of the case on the long line of children still waiting to give evidence.

If a judge decides there is a case to answer on the charges of child

molestation and conspiracy, the trial itself might stretch into 1987.

Mr. T, the actor who plays "B.A." in the popular children's TV series "The A-Team", walks along a corridor wearing dozens of gold necklaces over green battle fatigues, his hair in Mohican style. "Don't be afraid 'cause Mr. T. is here," he says.

"If I'm a hero, I'd be less than a man if I didn't show up to tell the children to speak the truth," he told reporters. "Nobody can keep me away."

The seven-year-old child, not identified at the request of pre-trial Judge Aviva Bobb, plays in a court annex turned into a nursery with cuddly toys before giving evidence in court each day.

The teachers, from the now-closed McMartin pre-school for young children in Manhattan Beach on the outskirts of Los

Angeles, their lawyers and three prosecutors sit only a short distance away from the boy on the witness stand in court.

Each side accuses the other of twisting questions to confuse the gangly seven-year-old. At one stage, the judge had to order lawyers to refrain from laughing at the boy.

The boy, admitting he was a little scared, told the court 26-year-old Raymond Buckley, the main accused, who is being held without bail, touched his genitals in a game called "tickle".

"Did that hurt?" asked a prosecutor. "Yes," said the boy, the first of the child witnesses to be called.

Asked to explain the game, he said: "Well, the kids take off their clothes and the teachers tickle them in the butt (bottom) and the penis."

In the "naked movie star" game, he said, photographs of the children would be taken while they were naked and performing somersaults.

In "cowboys and Indians", he said, the teachers played the role of Indians. "They would capture us and they would take us ... and put us in a jail and they touch us in jail."

But under cross-examination by the seven defence lawyers the boy appears to have contradicted himself at times. He said he had never seen any adults naked, except for his parents, and he did not remember anybody watching naked games at the school.

Earlier, he had said he had seen teachers nude when they played what he called naked games with the children.

Defence lawyers, after listening to six months of evidence by par-

ents, police and doctors, continually shout objections to answers by the boy, who sits on a raised chair.

Outside the courtroom, television crews jam a corridor waiting for the lawyers to give their side of the case. Photographers fight for pictures.

The public and reporters watch the hearings from an adjacent courtroom on two television monitors.

Members of the Los Angeles District Attorney's (prosecutor's) Office say the number of criminal cases involving the sexual abuse of children has escalated steadily since 1982.

The California attorney general, John Van de Kamp, has set up a committee to investigate child abuse problems.

"But we must be sure that the investigation and trial does not

leave a child more traumatised," he said.

Children in the McMartin case were persuaded to talk by a therapist, Kee MacFarlane, who used puppets. She found that children who were frightened were willing to let the hand puppets they used "tell" their stories.

Virginia McMartin, 77, founder of the McMartin school, is often wheeled into court wearing her trademark — teddy bear brooches which she pins in profusion on her coat lapels.

The other accused include Mr. McMartin's daughter Peggy Ann Buckley, 28.

In 1977, Virginia McMartin received the Badge of the Rose and Scroll for outstanding community service and devotion to others — the highest honour Manhattan Beach can bestow on its residents.

This involves achieving better profits from the basic, bulk wire business, diversifying into new areas through research and acquisitions and adding new emphasis to the group's international activities.

The first part involves slimming down in some areas and raising productivity in others. Bekaert wandered into the furniture-making business before World War II when a customer for springs went bankrupt. But furniture making sits oddly in a group directed towards industry, not consumers. Bekaert will get rid of it.

Raising productivity involves to some extent the adoption of Japanese manufacturing practices which have been tried on an experimental basis in one Belgian plant and will be extended to others. Bekaert started a joint venture

in Japan with Bridgestone 14 years ago. That involved a transfer of Bekaert technology. Now it wants to use the feedback.

The Japanese device, for example, a means of increasing the weight of wire coil fed into a wire drawing machine, so the machine could work for longer.

They found a means of keeping the machines working over three daily shifts so that production could continue during the night with only a small supervisory staff. These sorts of working techniques, Bekaert believes, have a wider application.

Higher productivity in the bulk wire business is a prerequisite for diversification, Mr. Rathe argued. "Diversification is not a last resort — you have to do it when you are on a sound basis. Fundamentally this is a sound business, but we want to build the future now. We don't want to act in an emergency — this is not crisis management."

Research has already taken Bekaert into filtration. Another area it is looking at is the use of fine wire fibres which can be used in reinforcing materials. It may take 10 years to develop a product which will then, however, have a production life of 30 years.

Bekaert has set up a special unit to control diversification, headed by Mr. Carl-Olof Henriksson who came from Sandvik. Acquisitions in the metal processing industry are possible, although not this year. Up to 10 detailed negotiations have taken place with other companies in the past three years without result.

Mr. Henriksson's arrival symbolises a new policy of hiring international expertise at a high level, a policy which met with some resistance from the established management. But it is part of the continuing transformation of an old family company.

The Bekaert family still holds over half the shares, although the management, apart from the managing director, now come from outside. The fourth-generation Bekaerts number 80 but there is only one in junior management.

Traditionally the family has been modest in its demands for dividends, which has allowed the group to finance expansion largely from income. Even now the group is quoted only on the Brussels and Antwerp exchanges.

There might never have been a public share issue had it not been for the fact that in 1972 the group issued a convertible loan, which meant that a minimum of 10 per cent of the shares had to be publicly quoted.

Despite Bekaert's position as a major Belgian group, the fact that its shares are tightly held means still that stock exchange turnover is meagre — an average 1,000 shares a day.

Earlier this year a U.S. institutional investor sought to acquire 20,000 shares. That forced the price up but the investor could not find enough stock — Financial Times news feature.

Upsets continue in indoor tennis

Davis beats Krickstein

MEMPHIS, Tennessee (R) — Fourth seed Aaron Krickstein was upset by fellow American Marty Davis 6-3, 7-5 in the second round of the \$315,000 U.S. National Indoor Tennis Championships here Tuesday.

Fifth seed Johan Kriek of the U.S. also advanced to the third round after coming from behind to beat Zoltan Kuharszky of Switzerland 3-6, 6-2, 6-2.

In other matches, American Jay Lapidus upset eighth seed Juan Aguilera of Spain 6-3, 6-1 and American Greg Holmes beat 10th seed Ben Testerman of the U.S. 6-3, 6-4.

Davis said after his victory: "This was my biggest win of the year. I've been playing top ten players extremely well lately. It was a very satisfying win."

"My game is to serve and come in. I knew the more balls he saw

the easier he would be able to draw a bead on my serve. I almost let it slip away."

Top seed Jimmy Connors, who received a first round bye and has won this tournament a record seven times, will meet Jan Gunnarsson of Sweden in a second round match Wednesday.

Miloslav Mecir, the Czechoslovakian player who defeated Connors in the semi-finals of last week's U.S. Pro Indoor in Philadelphia, beat Jakob Halsek of Switzerland to advance to the second round.

Decker wins award for boorish behaviour

RADNOR, Pennsylvania (R) — American running star Mary Decker has become the first woman to win the 'Mr. Nice Guy' award given annually by TV Guide magazine to a sports personality for boorish behaviour.

The nationally circulated magazine said Decker was selected for her remarks in the aftermath of her celebrated collision with Zola Budd during the 3,000-metres final at last summer's Los Angeles Olympics.

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Minister opens journalists course

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Youth Hani Al Khasawneh opened a 4-day training course Wednesday for sports journalists at the Sports Information League (SIL) headquarters here. The league organised this course in cooperation with the Asian Sports Press Union (ASPU).

Dr. Khasawneh delivered a speech in which he welcomed the Arab sport leaders participating in the training course and said that the holding of such seminars is the right step to gather sports information to serve youth and sport

movements in Jordan. Speaking at the opening session was also the ASPU President Abdul Muhsein Al Hussein who said that the ASPU is always keen on holding such seminars for sports journalists in Asia to improve their efficiency to enable them cope with international sports information.

The SIL President Muhammad Jameel Abdul Qader gave a speech in which he stressed the importance of holding such seminars in creating a generation of sports

journalists to serve sports movement in Jordan. Specialists from Syria, Iraq, Lebanon in addition to the ASPU president are lecturing in the course.

Taking part in the course are 50 sports journalists representing the media services in Jordan. Attending the opening ceremony were the Radio Jordan Director General Nasouh Al Majali, Al Hussein Sport City Director General Issam Arida, chief editors of the local newspapers and a number of the ministry officials.

WBA junior boxing title fight postponed

MIAMI (R) — Friday's World Boxing Association (WBA) junior-flyweight title fight between champion Francisco Quiroz and American Joey Olivo has been postponed because of a dispute over Quiroz's managerial rights.

The disagreement is between Jorge Saborio, who was scheduled to manage Quiroz and Rafi Cedeno, who claims he has a contract to manage the champion, a native of the Dominican Republic who now fights out of Venezuela.

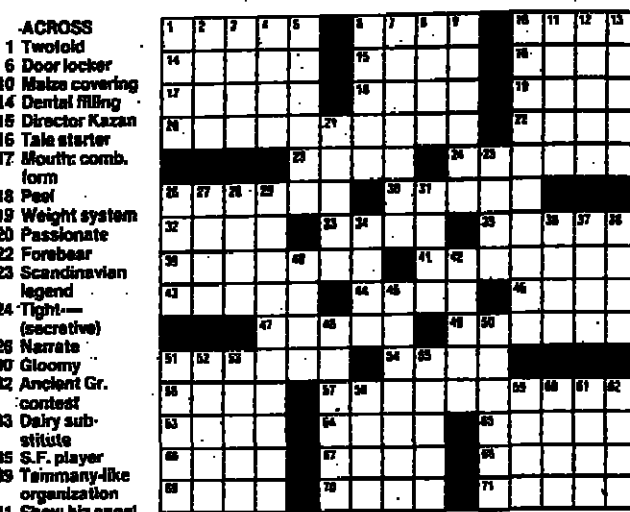
Felix (Tito) Zabala, promoter of the postponed title bout, said he would meet WBA President Gilberto Mendoza in Caracas Wednesday in an effort to settle the dispute.

Hearns named boxer of the year

NEW YORK (R) — World Boxing Council (WBC) super-heavyweight champion Thomas Hearns has been named fighter of the year by the New York Boxing Writers Association.

Hearns, who will challenge Marvelous Marvin Hagler for Hagler's undisputed middleweight title on April 15 in Las Vegas, won all three of his bouts last year, including a second-round knockout over Panama's Roberto Duran.

THE Daily Crossword by Samuel K. Flegner

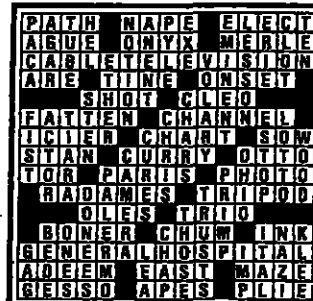


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ACROSS
1 Two-fold
6 Door
10 Males covering
14 Dental filling
15 Director Kazan
16 Tale starter
17 Mouth comb, form
18 Peel
19 Weight system
20 Passionate
22 Forebear
23 Scandinavian legend
24 Tight—(several)
26 Harass
27 Gloomy
32 Ancient Gr.
33 Contest
34 Daily substitute
35 S.F. player
39 Tarnished
41 Show biz angel
43 Hair filler
44 Epithet for Athens
46 Novelist Andre
47 Arts college town
48 Hound dog
51 Street sign
54 Hole punches
55 — voice
57 Subplot for Sophie Tucker
63 Interstate ramp
64 Corner
65 Hardship
66 Network of nerves
67 Modern money
68 Kind of angle
69 Anastasia's father
70 Orient
71 Rich soil

DOWN
1 Plaster
2 "Do — others"
3 Conspiracy
4 Stew ingredient
5 Lace feature
6 Biblical king
7 Surveying instrument
8 — gas non
9 Use a canoe
10 Ark, resort
11 Tale apart
12 Tally
13 Excited (with "up")
21 Ancient Gr. theater
25 Shakespearean heavy
26 Football team
27 Actor Richard
28 Channel
29 Contrived by trouble
31 Baseball's Pete
34 Spring
36 In statu quo
37 Joint
38 Weight allowance
40 Think tank output
42 Picasso or Cezanne
45 Chiefs
46 Periwinkle
50 Stalker
51 Aboveboard
52 Veloc
53 A Peron
55 Grain
56 Silk worm
58 Marmoset
60 Fever
61 Clever sayings
62 Mars

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



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Dinner
When you don't know
where to go for
Dinner

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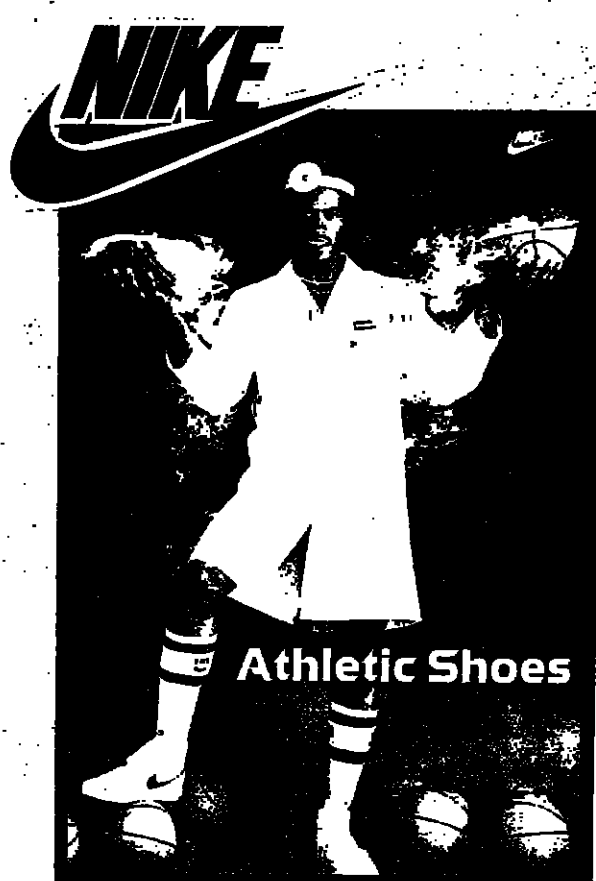
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Der Präsident der Bundesrepublik Deutschland und Freifrau von Weizsäcker bitten aus Anlass ihres Staatsbesuchs im Haschemitischen Königreich Jordanien die deutschen Staatsangehörigen und ihre Ehegatten zu einem Empfang am Montag, dem 04. Februar 1985, von 18.30 bis 20.30 Uhr in das Hotel Intercontinental, Amman. Sie werden um Verständnis gebeten, dass eine Teilnahme nur mit Einladungskarte, die vom 30.01. bis 01.02.1985 (09.00 — 12.00 Uhr) in der Botschaft der Bundesrepublik Deutschland persönlich abzuholen ist, möglich ist.

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2- WHO OF US IS THE THIEF

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Cinema RAGHADAN

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Illiquidity worsens, IFAD chief says

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) will run out of money in April unless OPEC donor countries reach agreement with industrialised nations on replenishing its resources, according to its chairman.

Mr. Idris Al Jazari told reporters before leaving the United Arab Emirates (UAE) for Kuwait Tuesday night that the fund needed at least \$600 million to continue its activities, mainly financial aid for projects in developing countries.

He said the crisis broke 18 months ago when the United States, which finances 58 per cent of IFAD's resources, said it was linking its share with donations from members states of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Mr. Jazari said Washington announced it will match any cut in contributions envisaged by Gulf OPEC donors, who say they are facing financial strains and have to reduce their donations. Gulf OPEC countries provide 42 per cent of the fund's resources.

Mr. Jazari, who has also visited Saudi Arabia, said his current tour will take him on to the United States and Brussels to negotiate a settlement to the deadlock which "threatens the very existence of IFAD".

IFAD is holding a general meeting in Rome at the end of February to discuss ways of replenishing its resources.

Mr. Jazari said he had received a pledge from Saudi Arabia that it would not halt its contribution of \$165 million, but officials here said the UAE would have to reduce its donation of \$25.6 million. The Rome-based fund, set up in 1977, has 139 members whose total donations between 1981 and 1983 stood at \$1.1 billion.

Mr. Jazari said that over the past five years IFAD extended more than \$800 million or 40 per cent of its total aid to Muslim countries.

Sweden announces advance contribution

Meanwhile, Sweden has announced an advance contribution of \$4 million towards the second replenishment of the resource-starved IFAD.

It is the third industrialised country, after Finland and Italy, to do so.

Announcing the decision, Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme said the contribution was being made due to IFAD's "exceptional circumstances" and in the "firm expectation" of an early agreement on the fund's second replenishment.

Oman signs for \$400m loan, Euronote facilities

MUSCAT (R) — Oman Wednesday signed for a \$300 million bank loan and a \$100 million Euronote facility to help finance development projects and cover a budget deficit running at some 200 million riyals (\$580 million) a year.

The eight-year loan, arranged by Gulf International Bank (GIB) of Bahrain and provided by a total of 36 financial institutions, is Oman's second in less than two years.

Bankers said they expected the country to resort to the international money markets again later this year, while central bank officials said the Omani government did not want to get a reputation as a persistent borrower.

ending at some one billion riyals (\$2.89 billion). Oman could technically do without the credit, but officials said the government preferred to leave the reserves untouched for future generations.

Under the five-year Euronote facility, underwritten by GIB and 10 other financial institutions, the Omani government can issue three or six-month notes carrying interest at London Inter Bank Offered Rate (LIBOR) plus one-eighth of a point.

Deputy Prime Minister Qais Ibn Abdul Monim Al Zawawi, signing the agreements for the Omani government, said that despite the unstable market for oil, the country's main source of revenue, Oman had managed to carry out its second five-year plan in full.

U.S. Steel reports profit

PITTSBURGH (R) — U.S. Steel, America's biggest steelmaker, said Tuesday its fortunes picked up in 1984, allowing it to post a profit of \$493 million.

It said the turnaround from 1983, when it reported a net loss of \$1.16 billion, was due mostly to cost reduction, the effect of lower pension costs, an improved mix of steel products shipped, and higher operating and shipment levels.

The company said it expected to turn in another profitable performance in 1985.

The United States has taken tough measures against steel imports in recent months to give its domestic steelmakers time to reorganise and try to recoup their billion dollar losses.

In November, Washington said it had decided to limit sales to the U.S. market of European Community steel pipes and tubes.

Last month the Reagan administration said it had reached agreements with seven steel-exporting nations, including Japan, South Korea and Brazil, to reduce their shipments to the U.S. by about 30 per cent in 1985.

Japan enjoys record trade surplus

TOKYO (R) — Japan reported Wednesday it chalked up a record surplus with its trading partners last year, setting the scene for another bout of bickering on trade issues next month.

The finance ministry put the surplus at \$44.35 billion, a 41 per cent leap from last year's \$31.35 billion thanks to insatiable overseas demand for record amounts of Japanese cars, electronic goods and machinery.

Exports, mainly to the United States, rose 15.7 per cent to \$168.27 billion. Imports rose only 8.7 per cent to \$123 billion in a year when Japanese industry was helped by falling oil prices.

Rows over trade are now looming because of Japan's successful sales campaigns abroad. Trade ministers from Japan, the United States, Canada and Europe will gather in Kyoto, Japan, between Feb. 9 and 11 to discuss trade issues.

But already U.S., European and Asian trade negotiators are warning the Japanese trade ministry of their increasing anger at Japan's success in their markets.

Foreign unions and politicians see Japanese imports as threats to

domestic industries and therefore a potential cause of unemployment.

They argue that Japan needs to open its huge market to more imported products and stop maintaining artificial trade barriers by demanding unrealistically high safety standards and weaving unwritten webs of red tape around the Tokyo sales offices of foreign companies.

Only Tuesday U.S. under secretary for economic affairs Mr. W. Allen Wallis said in Tokyo that Japan's trade barriers cause 30 per cent of the trade imbalance with the United States.

In response, Japanese officials say foreign salesmen simply have not tried hard enough in Japan while U.S. goods in particular are expensive because of the strong dollar.

Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone has called on his cabinet colleagues to come up with ideas quickly to stem the tide of tirades against

Japan.

But economists say the trade surplus in 1985 will be at least as big as last year, if not even bigger.

Bank of Yokohama economists said in this month's survey: "Exports of electronic products and electrical machinery continue to grow because of the worldwide electronics boom."

And oil-dependent Japan looks set to enjoy more oil price cuts this year, contributing towards a small import bill.

The latest figures showed Japan's massive trade surplus was being balanced a little by the country's spending on tourism and insurance and banking services abroad.

The surplus in current account balance of payments, which takes these money flows into account along with the trade figures, was \$35.02 billion but even that was a 68 per cent increase on last year's \$20.80 billion.

Japanese economists were quick to point out that while Japan earned vast amounts of money abroad, it returned a lot of it overseas investment.

The money-outflow from Japan hit a record \$49.38 billion last

year, a sharp rise from the 1983 outflow of \$17.70 billion.

The Japanese spent the money on attractive dollar-denominated securities as well as the land and buildings needed to set up new overseas production centres to protect export markets and try to meet trade complaints.

Car exports earn \$37 billion

Meanwhile, Japanese car industry sources said Wednesday Japan exported a record 6.14 million vehicles last year, earning the country \$37 billion.

The 7.8 per cent increase over 1983 was helped by a slight rise in the number of Hondas, Toyotas and Nissans allowed into the United States.

Shipments to South East Asia remained strong and more Europeans climbed behind Japanese steering wheels. But the Middle East bought fewer cars after incomes there dropped because of lower oil earnings.

By contrast, Japanese bought 41,982 foreign vehicles last year, a 19 per cent increase on 1983, according to the Japan Automobile Association.

Africa awaits World Bank support

PARIS (R) — Western countries are to meet at the World Bank's European headquarters in Paris Thursday and Friday to decide on a proposed \$1 billion fund to help put drought and famine-stricken black African countries on the road to economic recovery.

The "special assistance facility for sub-Saharan Africa" is to be the World Bank's key weapon in overcoming a crippling economic crisis menacing almost all the 45 African states south of the Sahara.

But aid officials said it was uncertain whether agreement to launch the fund would be reached at Thursday's meeting. Even if it were, they doubted the chances of reaching the stated target.

The United States had shown extreme reluctance to contribute and other major industrial countries including Britain, West Germany and Japan had not yet agreed to take part, they said.

The idea for the fund came from a World Bank special report, which outlines the dismal prospects facing the world's poorest continent.

The catastrophic famine afflicting Ethiopia and threatening countries like Sudan and Chad is only the visible manifestation of an even bigger problem, the report says.

African nations made rapid economic progress in the first 10 years of independence in the late 1950s and early 1960s, it says.

But in the last decade much has been reversed, leaving Africans poorer now than in 1970 and probably poorer still in 10 years' time.

While the continent's debts are too small to hit the headlines like those of Brazil or Mexico, in relation to many African countries' economic potential they are much worse.

But the report insists the cause

is not hopeless, noting that similar despair was felt about India in the early 1960s.

The country now produces more than enough food to feed its people and has become one of the ten largest industrial powers.

World Bank officials said black African governments would be unable to put their houses in order by repairing roads and financing vital imports and debt repayments without coordinated support from richer countries.

The plight of the African governments prompted the bank's decision at last September's International Monetary Fund/World Bank annual meeting in Washington to set up a \$2 billion fund for a limited period of three years, starting this year.

The fund was originally to be made part of the International

Development Agency (IDA), the soft loan arm of the bank.

But the U.S. said it would not contribute as it had set up its own fund for Africa of \$500 million, aiming to supply aid mainly to African regimes of which it approved politically.

In response, the bank decided to set up a separate, voluntary fund independent of the IDA. It also scaled down the target sum to \$1 billion, but even this now looked hard to achieve, aid officials said.

The bank would like each major industrial country to give \$50 million a year over the three years, but so far only France has promised 500 million francs a year, or about \$165 million altogether.

Other ready contributors included Italy, the Netherlands, and several Scandinavian and Middle Eastern countries, it said.

OPEC reaches accord on pricing

GENEVA (R) — Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) oil ministers, meeting in an emergency session, have reached a majority agreement on the crucial question of price differentials, ministers leaving the meeting said Wednesday.

Saudi Arabian Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani said nine of the 13 OPEC ministers agreed to narrow the price differentials for the various grades of oil to \$2.40 from \$4.

United Arab Emirates Minister Mansur Said Al Oteibi also said a majority accord was reached but put the new price spread at \$2.50.

The ministers began a series of meetings at the weekend in an effort to find a way of propping up world oil prices, which have been under pressure for the past year.

The problem of setting price differentials between the light and

heavy oils has plagued the ministers in their attempts to bring stability to the world oil market.

OPEC delegate sources said three members — Algeria, Libya and Iran — which stayed out of the majority decision were considering their position. Gabon abstained, they said.

The sources said the agreement meant the price of Arab light, which has represented the marker price for OPEC, had been cut by \$1 to \$28 per barrel.

Arab light has been abandoned as the benchmark, they said, but there was no official confirmation of this.

In their various meetings since the weekend at Geneva's Intercontinental Hotel, the OPEC ministers have been seeking a formula that would ensure they all compete on equal terms in the international market.

Ministerial sources told Reuters Tuesday that a new gap of \$2.40 was generally acceptable compared with the current difference of around \$4.

Tuesday, widely conflicting reports swept the conference hotel over steps proposed to solve the differentials issue, which has finally come to a head after changes in demand and refining trends in recent years.

These changes have left producers of the lighter crudes at a marketing disadvantage under the existing pricing formula.

Proposals included the dropping of the marker crude and changes in quality-mix of crude pumped by the group's leading producer, Saudi Arabia.

Algeria, Libya and Iran have been strongly opposed to any cut

in the price of \$29 a barrel for Arab light, the traditional benchmark crude.

Algeria and Libya were also against major cuts in their extra-light crude prices sought by the Gulf states, while Saudi Arabia has resisted any rise in the prices for heavy grades.

Gabon Minister Etienne Guy Mouvanga Tchibba, whose country abstained Wednesday, had said Tuesday that the narrowing of the price gap would be achieved entirely by cutting the price of high-quality grades, with no compensatory increase for cheaper heavy crudes.

Meanwhile, Egyptian Oil Minister Abdul Hadi Kandeel left Geneva to fly home Wednesday after walking out of the emergency OPEC ministers' meeting Tuesday.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed sharply higher, following through on its initial mark-up on the easing of domestic money market rates and steadier sterling, dealers said.

News of the majority decision taken to narrow oil price differentials at the OPEC meeting and the recent advance on Wall Street further helped sentiment.

The F.T. 30 share index at 1500 GMT was up 23.9 points at 985.1 and the more broadly based FTSE 100 index at 1530 GMT was 28 points higher at 1,277.3.

Government bonds gained up to 2 1/2 points on strong institutional and overseas demands. North Americans firmed.

Demand for government bonds prompted the Bank of England to issue £500 million in tranches of existing stock.

Among leading issues ICI firmed 30p to 847, BP added 19p to 520 and Natwest gained 10p to 659. Barclays rose 25p to 632 following news it sold its stake in Bank of Scotland which firmed 17p to 489.

Union Discount added 40p to 723 following its annual results while Rank Organisation rose 20p to 340 on further consideration of its recent figures. Powell Duffryn moved against the trend down 5p to 388 after Tuesday's lapsed offer from Hanson Trust.

Gold shares were mostly higher with the bullion price.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.1238/45	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3262/65	Canadian dollars
	3.1665/75	West German marks
	3.5815/30	Dutch guilders
	2.6705/15	Swiss francs
	63.32/36	Belgian francs
	9.6775/6825	French francs
	1953/1955	Italian lire
	254.23/33	Japanese yen
	9.0375/0475	Swedish crowns
	9.1575/1675	Norwegian crowns
	11.2975/3075	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	302.80/303.30	U.S. dollars

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, JAN. 31, 1985

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A strange day and one that ricochets between moments when you are able to see how best to achieve good results in an unusual and progressive manner. Keep alert.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Different types of interests and friends can bring you the greatest progress at this time. Gad about more socially.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Contact prominent persons you know who can be helpful to you and start working on new projects you have in mind.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Any new situations that arise should be studied from every angle and handled wisely. Avoid tendency to argue with others.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Find a different method to handle all business affairs that will get you better results. Cement a relationship.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Listening carefully to what partners have to suggest will mean working together more profitably. Socialize this evening.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Combining standard methods with the new at your work can bring better results in the future. New contacts materialize.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You are desirous of enjoying new types of pleasures, but use care in making choices. Be more interesting to your mate.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Look to good friends for the assistance you need in order to gain your aims more quickly. Make changes at home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Contact those persons who can assist you to get ahead in your own field of endeavor. Show capabilities.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You can get into various financial affairs now that can add much to present abundance. Make repairs to property.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You have fine talents which can be expressed admirably at this time and you get ahead faster. Attend social affairs.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Don't confide your secret affairs to others now and work quietly to gain your aims. Take care you do not lose your temper.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, FEB. 1, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The morning will be just great for getting into original modes of activity and undertakings and to develop them as quickly as possible. The afternoon and evening brings conflict.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Early plan what you want to do in the way of personal activities. Take care you are not overly demanding.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Handle any mundane matters well in the morning. Later, you may find it difficult to gain personal wishes.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) After breakfast you can get that new venture started. Steer clear of job problems and avoid an irate higher-up.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Although you may make a fine impression on a newcomer, be sure you don't neglect a good friend for a new one.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You have personal problems which an unusual type person can best help you to resolve. Put aside business matters for now.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Handle that special work in the morning and later avoid outside arguments.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Make those arrangements for pleasure in the morning and then carry through with work ahead of you, even if boring.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You can clear up that home affair in an unusual way now, so get busy at it. Get home in far better order, also.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Informing others of what you want from them. This will bring excellent results today. Safeguard fundamental interests.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You have a fine idea how to add to present income and should put it in motion right away. Use care in driving.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Early get personal affairs handled intelligently. Get financial affairs in order and stay within your means.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Make that plan quietly so that you can gain more prosperity in the future, but don't be too demanding later.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... be or she can easily learn about such things as computers, robots and the like and will strive for a New Era kind of profession. Your progeny will always do things a little differently from others, so don't try to change.

THE BETTER HALF.

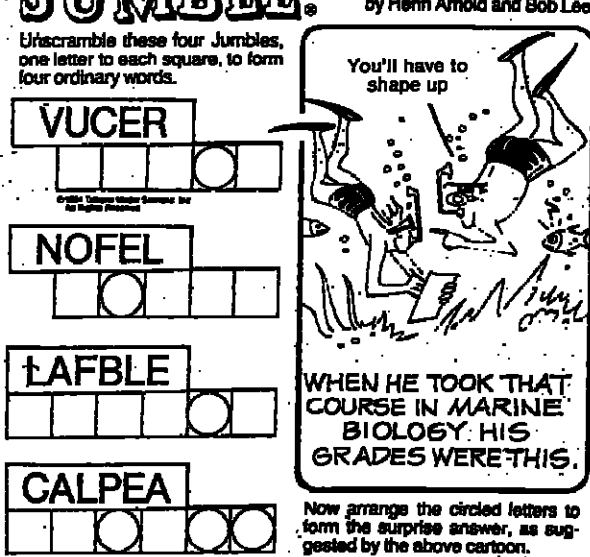
By Harris



"If milk is so good for you, how come cute baby cows grow up to be so fat and ugly?"

JUMBLE.

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



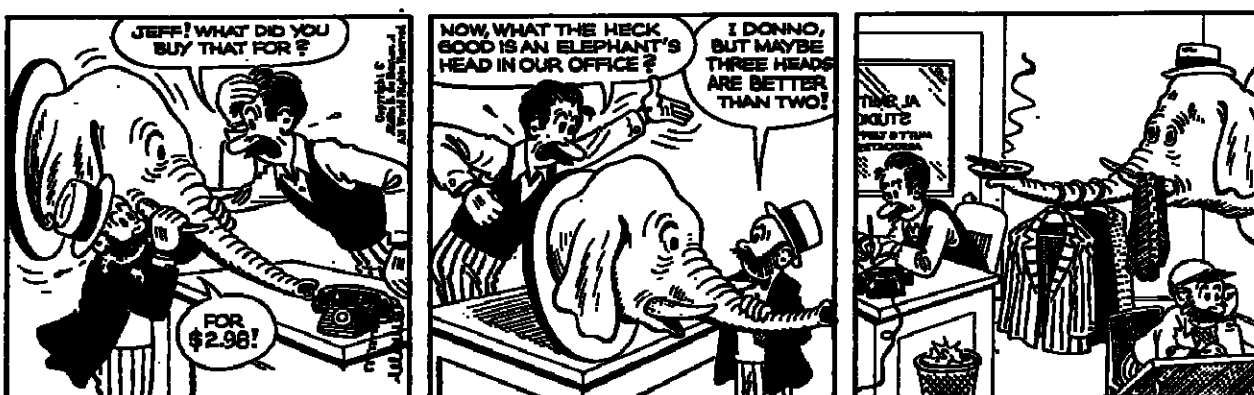
Print answer here: BELOW

Yesterday's Jumbles: LINEN AVAIL BODILY LETHAL
Answer: What a male mountain goat is - A MOUNTAIN GOAT

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Britain sticks by Trident missile despite spiralling cost

LONDON (R) — The cost of a huge new U.S.-built nuclear missile system intended as Britain's last line of defence into the next century is rocketing, the government has acknowledged.

Latest official figures which show the bill will be more than £9 billion (\$10 billion) tell only part of the story. Independent estimates put the figure at up to £11 billion (\$12 billion).

But while the opposition howls for the plan to be scrapped and even government supporters are anxious, ministers remain committed to the project. The Trident submarine-launched system is

needed, it is good value and it is coming, they say.

When Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher ordered Trident in 1980 the price was around £5 billion (\$5.6 billion) — half its present level.

She has since upgraded the order so that she will have the more advanced Trident II system which is to be used by the U.S.

navy. The change to the higher-grade weapon and the slide of sterling against the dollar have pushed the price up dramatically.

Even the figure of £9.29 billion (\$10.3 billion) announced Tuesday by Defence Minister Michael Heseltine does not take account of the pound's latest tumblers.

The government argues that the bill is still manageable as it will be spread over 20 years. Although the figure looks high, it will account for only three per cent of total defence spending over that period.

No cheaper alternative will do since only Trident II will give the punch to threaten Moscow at a time when Soviet anti-missile defences are expected to be improving, it says.

Critics of Trident, who include a number of backbench Conservatives and press commentators who normally back the government on defence, see the costs in a harsher light.

They say that when the big Trident bills start to roll in late in the 1980s, defence spending will be undergoing its first serious squeeze in a decade.

Anti-nuclear group to meet in Athens

ATHENS (R) — An international group of anti-nuclear campaigners, including poets, economists and clerics, meet four days of government in Athens Thursday for talks about how the nuclear arms race can be stopped.

The meeting, with Sweden's Olof Palme, Greece's Andreas Papandreu, Tanzania's Julius Nyerere and Argentina's Raul Alfonsín, was described by the Greek organisers as "the starting point of an international campaign ... to consolidate peace, stop competition over nuclear weapons and promote the idea of general disarmament".

The four leaders, along with President Miguel de la Madrid of

Mexico and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of India, met in New Delhi on Monday and called for a world nuclear freeze, a ban on militarising space and progressive nuclear disarmament.

The Athens and New Delhi meetings follow a six-nation initiative launched last May to lobby the nuclear powers to stop making new weapons and to spend more on economic development.

The organisers said the leaders would brief the 50 guests, among them ex-heads of government Pierre Trudeau of Canada, Bruno Kreisky of Austria and Joop Den Uyl of the Netherlands, on what was agreed in New Delhi and seek views on how to promote the initiative.

He said it was absurd to keep the arms because they were too old to be of any use, merely exposing Greece to nuclear attack.

W. Germany, U.S. plan to develop RAM system

MUNICH, West Germany (R) — West Germany and the United States plan to develop a new weapon to defend NATO ships against sea-skimming missiles, the aerospace firm Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm GMBH (MBB) said Wednesday.

Denmark would also contribute to the project, an MBB spokesman said, but would not join actual production. The three governments would sign an agreement shortly, MBB added.

The ship-to-air weapon, known as the Rolling Airframe Missile (RAM) system, is intended to knock out anti-ship missiles like France's Exocet, which was used with great effect against British warships by Argentine pilots in the Falklands conflict and by Iraq against naval targets in the Gulf war.

MBB said in a statement it had three equal partners in the West German share of the project: AEG-Telefunken AG, Diehl GMBH of Nuremberg and Bodenseewerk Geratetechnik GMBH, which now are in a new consortium called RAM-system GMBH. The U.S. partner is the General Dynamics Corporation.

MBB did not give the value of the contract, the number of RAM systems to be built or the date for the start of production.

Korean police hunt for food poisoners

SEOUL (R) — Almost 800 detectives Wednesday joined the hunt for extortionists threatening to poison Korean food products in imitation of a gang of Japanese blackmailers, police said.

Four South Korean foodmakers

have received letters in the past month demanding ransoms of \$36,000 each.

A 60-man squad of detectives has failed to trace the gangs and police Wednesday drafted in 800 more men. Police believe three

gangs are involved and said one company might already have paid the ransom.

Korea Food Industry Association officials said the companies were dealing with the threats jointly. It has offered \$36,000 for information leading to the arrest of the extortionists.

The companies said their sales had sharply decreased since the case was reported by the press this weekend.

Police said the blackmailers were imitating Japan's poison candy gang, which has laced sweets on supermarket shelves with cyanide in a bid to extort money from the manufacturers.

Canadian state premier not guilty on drug charges

FREDERICTON, New Brunswick (R) — New Brunswick Premier Richard Hatfield was acquitted of possessing marijuana by a judge who agreed the drug may have been planted in the politician's luggage during a royal visit last year.

Chief Justice Andrew Harrigan, referring to a defence suggestion that the drug had been put in the case by others, agreed that suspicious circumstances surrounded the incident.

A small amount of marijuana

was found in Mr. Hatfield's suitcase during a visit here by Queen Elizabeth.

In his ruling, Mr. Harrigan singled out a local television reporter who knew of an investigation into the affair only a few days after the drug was found on Sept. 25 during a search of luggage due to be loaded on to the royal plane.

Asking rhetorically what anyone would gain by planting the drug, Mr. Harrigan said: "The gain is the juiciest story ever to crack the media."

Political parties can count on me, Flick says

HAMBURG, West Germany (R) — Friedrich Karl Flick, whose industrial empire is at the centre of West Germany's political bribery affair, says he will continue to donate money to political parties, Stern magazine said Wednesday.

In his first interview about the affair, Mr. Flick, 56, told Stern: "I think it's perfectly normal to do something about the 1987 elections and do something I will."

"They can always count on me," he said.

Asked if this meant more donations, Mr. Flick answered: "yes", according to the magazine.

Former Economics Ministers Count Otto von Lambsdorff and Hans Friderichs are due to stand trial later this year on charges of taking bribes for their Free Democratic Party (FDP) in return for granting the Flick group a 450 million mark (\$145 million) tax concession on a 1975 shares deal.

The concession was rescinded in December 1983. The Flick group has appealed against the ruling.

Mr. Flick himself faces no charges and has denied the allegations of the alleged bribes. His former general manager, Eberhard von Brauchitsch, is charged with bribery.

"I thought it was a businessman's duty to give political parties financial support when the

firm's profits allowed (but) our politicians can't be bought and we never expected anything in return for the donations," Stern quoted Mr. Flick as saying.

It said the interview was held at a villa in southern California where Mr. Flick, head of one of West Germany's last big private concerns, was recovering from a hip operation.

Mr. Flick said he planned to visit future FDP leader, Economics Minister Martin Bormann, as well as Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Finance Minister Gerhard Schröder, both of the Christian Democratic Union.

"I'll tell the gentlemen that when they go into the fray in the 1987 elections, they can always count on me," he said.

Mr. Lambsdorff, Mr. Friderichs and Mr. von Brauchitsch were due to stand trial in Bonn on Jan. 10. The proceedings have been put back until at least mid-March so the court can decide if additional charges of tax evasion on political party donations should be heard at the same time.

Prosecutors are also investigating possible cases of tax evasion by 1,800 companies and individuals said to have channeled funds to political parties in the 1960s and 1970s through charitable front organisations.

Watergate plotter denies part in Kennedy killing

MIAMI (R) — Watergate co-conspirator and former CIA employee E. Howard Hunt is trying for the second time to convince a jury that he had nothing to do with the assassination of President John Kennedy.

Mr. Hunt is suing Liberty Lobby, a Conservative Washington-based political action group, over a story that appeared in its newspaper the Spotlight in 1978.

The article by James Marchetti, also a former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) employee, quoted a purported CIA memorandum as saying the agency would "have to explain Hunt's presence in Dallas" when Mr. Kennedy was killed there on Nov. 22, 1963.

Mr. Hunt, who now lives in Miami, denies he was in Dallas at that time.

In 1981 a federal jury decided Mr. Hunt was libelled by Liberty Lobby and awarded him \$650,000 in damages, but the judgement was overturned on a legal technicality.

Now Mr. Hunt is back in court, facing cross-examination by Liberty Lobby's attorney, Mark Lane, a noted proponent of the theory that Mr. Kennedy's slaying was the result of a conspiracy.

Mr. Lane wrote the best-selling "Rush to Judgment", the first book to challenge the official government conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone, killed Mr. Kennedy.

The retrial of Mr. Hunt's suit began on Monday and is expected to last a week.

In opening testimony, Mr. Hunt admitted to carrying out burglaries for the CIA.

Ministers meet to set Europe's space future

ROME (R) — Ministers from 11 European countries began a two-day meeting Wednesday to set Europe's course in space technology and exploration for the rest of the century.

They were attending the first meeting of the European Space Agency (ESA) at ministerial level for eight years.

The ministers were expected to agree on an ambitious programme for the next 10 to 15 years after Europe's success with Spacelab and the Ariane rocket.

The chairman, Italy's Minister For Scientific Research Luigi Granelli, said at the opening session that results so far "mean the dawn of a new era that we can describe as historic."

After a decade of space effort advances which have put West Europe on the verge of launching its own manned missions, the two-day conference will discuss a number of options aimed at propelling the European states to the forefront of space exploration in the 21st Century.

Top of the agenda will be high-prestige projects such as the Columbus Space Station venture with the United States, to which ministers are expected to give the go-ahead, development of a more powerful Ariane rocket, and a French proposal for a European manned shuttle called Hermes.

The programme to be decided on "is extremely innovative and complex, and of a kind to give Europe a certain autonomy," Mr. Granelli told reporters last week.

Whatever the final details, it would be Western Europe's costliest programmes so far, he said, requiring an estimated 17,000 billion lire (\$8 billion) over the next decade, compared with 10,700 billion lire spent in 1973-83.

The trickiest item is likely to be a proposal by France, with an eye to complete European autonomy in space, for Hermes, a reusable manned shuttle that could be operational in 1996 or 1997 and used as a link in a wholly European space station.

West Germany has already questioned the need for Hermes, although France sees it as a vital part of Europe's space effort, while Mr. Granelli said it was unlikely to be approved now as it fell outside the 10-year planning scope of the meeting.

Meanwhile West Germany, Italy, France and Britain are all committed to building the Columbus Space Station, which would be launched in collaboration with America in 1992 at a cost to Europe of \$2.4 billion, while the improvements to Ariane would be mainly paid for by France.

Portuguese leaders study measures against FP-25

LISBON (R) — Portuguese ministers and security chiefs have met to study urgent measures to stop a fresh spate of violence by leftist guerrillas thought to be prompted by a coming trial of fellow militants.

The emergency meeting called by Prime Minister Mario Soares Tuesday night came the day after an abortive mortar attack on six NATO warships in Lisbon and the parcel-bomb murder of a local racing car hero in northern Portugal.

The FP-25 left-wing urban guerrilla group claimed responsibility for the attacks.

No official statements were released after Tuesday night's meeting, the third held to discuss FP-25 in a year.

FP-25 stands for Popular Forces of April 25, the date of the 1974 Portuguese revolution.

Justice Minister Rui Machete told reporters he believed FP-25

had launched a new campaign to protest against the trials later this year of 50 suspected guerrillas arrested in 1984.

He said the government needed greater legislative powers to take tougher action against guerrillas.

Western diplomatic sources saw Monday's mortar attack on the NATO squadron as being probably part of a campaign by FP-25 to achieve maximum publicity before the trials.

Among the suspects to be tried is a hero of the 1974 revolution, Lt-Col. Otelo Saraiva de Carvalho.

Some government officials commented that the attack on the NATO ships and similar strikes on NATO's Iberian headquarters near Lisbon last month and the U.S. embassy here last November marked a break from the group's usual strikes against businessmen and their interests.

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

NO WAY TO GO
By Robert O. Wilson

- ACROSS
1 Act delighted
5 Flaccid
9 Bailout
13 Wild time
17 Duet of a car
20 Length terms
23 In a sorrowful way
25 When
26 Kind of breakfast
28 Safety devices
30 Printer's measure
31 Mystic writing
32 Solder
34 Snick or —
35 Allow
36 Monthly expense

- DOWN
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2 August
3 Kind of wine
4 Total
5 Potential
6 Persecution
7 Flash
8 Model of excellence
9 Tax, college
10 Letters
11 Snigger
12 Post William C.
13 Cooking method
14 Century plant
15 Racing boat
16 Coleridge
17 Ornamental edging
21 Snug retreat

- 22 Treat with contempt
23 Slaves
25 Sports group
26 Spot
27 Story lessons
28 Mountain lake
29 Large land holding
30 Small duck
31 Kind of trans- mission
32 Persian oil
33 Mission
34 Persian oil
35 Snail
36 Moon
37 Fencing sword
38 Not so much
39 Freedom from unity
40 Clergyman

- 41 Colt mothers
42 Volcanic
43 Staff
44 Bargain events
45 Egg-shaped
46 Mountain pass
47 Moving picture
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50 Loops on lace
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52 Cheese
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54 Old cars
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62 Felt
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64 Gr. marketplace
65 Surgical coverings
66 Shinto temple
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69 Cornucopia
70 River from Lake Victoria
71 Lake Victoria
72 Unit of force
73 Symptom
74 Old portion
75 Rending table

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